

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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ON BOARD H.M.S. "GOVERNMENT."



COMMANDER ASQ-TH: "Our enemy, 'House of Lords,' is in sight; are you ready to fire?"
GUNNER H-LD-NE: "No, Sir. Our best guns have been silenced by the 'Suffragette.'"

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THE OUTLOOK.

Our hearts are filled with burning anger as we record the horrible assault perpetrated by the Government on women in Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham; but mingled with the feeling of disgust and anger at the wicked action of the Government is a feeling of intense admiration of the noble women who are enduring this torture.

The Facts of the Case.

On Saturday, September 18, two women, Miss Barnwell and Miss Burkitt, were sentenced to a month's confinement in Winson Green Gaol; on Wednesday, the 22nd, seven other women were sent to join them by the magistrates. All these women immediately determined to defy the prison regulations and carry out the hunger strike. On Friday morning in the columns of the public Press there appeared a rumour that the authorities, in order to break

down the resistance of the women, had determined to adopt the process of forcible feeding, and in answer to questions in the House on Monday and Tuesday, Mr. Masterman, speaking for Mr. Herbert Gladstone, acknowledged that this had been the case.

Legal Proceedings.

The Women's Social and Political Union acted immediately, and on Friday when the information was first published Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst proceeded to Birmingham and addressed a protest meeting. They also went to the prison, but all information was refused. Simultaneously the prisoners' solicitor applied for permission to see them to take their detailed instructions. For a considerable time no reply was given. Then this permission was definitely refused. It was accordingly decided on Wednesday to take legal proceedings against the Home Secretary, the Governor, and the doctor of Winson Green Gaol, on the ground that an assault had been committed. And as a first step, in order to comply with the law, a formal letter was sent demanding redress. The correspondence is given on page 4. Meanwhile we print on the following page an article describing the horrible nature of the operation from the medical point of view, adding opinions specially given by Dr. Forbes Winslow and other doctors.

Heroes.

Several of the women who are going through this fiery ordeal were already on the roll of honour of the Women's Social and Political Union. Mary Leigh, now for the sixth time in prison for her protest against the exclusion of women from the vote and for the third time enduring in defence of the cause the hunger strike; Patricia Woodlock, serving her fifth sentence, who in her several imprisonments has already served an aggregate of nearly six months; Charlotte Marsh, who has been twice in

prison before, and who has many a time filled the hearts of her hearers with devotion and loyalty to the cause of women; Mary Edwards, Leslie Hall, Mabel Capper (her third imprisonment), Laura Ainsworth, Ellen Barnwell, Hilda Evelyn Burkitt; these women deserve well of womanhood and of the country of their birth; they are setting up a standard of heroism which will be remembered and honoured so long as the annals of human society are preserved.

Blind Obstinacy.

But for the Government. Do they think that by these abominable means they are going to crush down the woman's movement? If they think that, they prove once more how utterly they fail to understand the nature and the determination of women. Let them take to heart this letter, received by Mrs. Pankhurst the morning after the statement had been made by the Government.—"I am ready," writes a devoted member of the Union, "to take any act the Union may consider necessary. This forcing of food will not deter us in the least." Another woman writes:—"I beg leave to take my share." These are examples of the attitude which the women are taking up. It is the answer which the women of the Women's Social and Political Union make to the Government. Those who are likely to be deterred by brutality and violence are not within its ranks. Step by step women will go forward with the Government until the cup of its iniquity is full, until the tide of indignation in the country rises to its flood, when this Government which has thought fit to carry out these atrocities will be overwhelmed.

"Laughter."

In the Press reports of the questions in the House of Commons on this subject it is stated that Mr. Masterman's answers were punctuated by "laughter" from members of the House. This "laughter" of M.P.'s will

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not be forgotten; it has already fired the indignation of many hitherto indifferent, and when the history of this movement comes to be written it will serve to explain to an incredulous generation the nature of the opposition which women had to face. We note that Mr. Masterman, in defiance of fact, referred to the use of the stomach-pump for forcible feeding as "hospital treatment." It will be seen from Mr. Mansell-Moullin's letter, which we give elsewhere, that forcible feeding of this nature is not performed in hospitals.

Wanton Vengeance.

The Government, in their blind desire to strike at the women who have revolted in prison, have determined upon yet another act of aggression, and have issued summonses against the Lancashire hunger strikers for damage done in prison. The wantonness of this attack will be appreciated when it is realised that they already received punishment in prison for their offences, and that the "damage" with which they are charged amounts to such trivial sums as 1s. 6d., 1s., 6d., and 3d.

A Parallel.

Persons who still take seriously the statements of the Liberal Press that women by their agitation are putting back the movement should read the following extract from the column by Mr. P. W. Wilson in Wednesday's *Daily News* relating to the situation in Ireland:—

People generally believe that the Irish Bill will be bitten as badly as the Housing Bill. This means a possibility of disorder in the Western counties of Ireland and the certainty of a complete deadlock in the process of land purchase. The owners will not get their money, and the tenants will have still to wait for the period of repayment to commence. There is thus every reason why, in the interests of tranquillity, the measure should pass.

Thus the possibility of Irish disorder is set forth as an express reason for yielding to what the writer holds to be the just demands of the people. He takes a different view of the Suffragettes and their campaign protest.

Mrs. Pankhurst's Reply.

On Saturday last at Birmingham Mrs. Pankhurst replied to the appeal made to her by a leading Liberal organ to call back her followers and to stop the vigour of the agitation which was being engineered against the Government. She says that if it were possible for her to adopt such a cowardly course, the women would not respond to her call. In the leading article from her which is printed in this issue she declares once again her pride in the splendid heroism of the women of the Union who have counted no cost too great and no sacrifice too terrible to make in order to win the emancipation of their sex.

How Liberals Deceive Themselves.

In the current issue of *The Nation* the editor appeals to women not to follow the leaders of the militant movement, making once again the assertion that the cause "has gone back" and arguing that women have made two mistakes, both of them springing from the original miscalculation. He says:—

They thought that women could use force effectively, when it was clear that they could not so use it, and they hoped to frighten men—not in itself a worthy end—when they have merely irritated them into a blank denial of women's capacity to act with discretion in public life, or into a more rational refusal to concede a great change of political power in response to a calculated resort to violence.

Here are three statements which are demonstrably false. That the cause has not gone back is proved by the unprecedented growth of the Women's Social and Political Union, which is expanding and extending far faster to-day than ever before. As to the women's failure to use force, did they not demonstrate at Birmingham that they had behind them the sympathy of the vast majority of the people, and did they not at the same time prove that they could so seriously frighten Mr. Asquith that he made his progress through the city in underground passages, and only emerged to be guarded by hordes of police? It is extraordinary that editors of responsible newspapers can so deceive themselves as to the situation.

A Sounder Judgment.

Meanwhile, we note in other journals a more statesman-like consideration. In the leading article of the *Manchester Guardian* of September 27, which we reproduce in full on the following page, will be found a vigorous attack upon the policy pursued by the Government, and among sober-minded politicians all over the country is growing up a belief that this story of revolution can only be brought to an end in one way, that is by giving women the citizen rights which have always been their due and which are being withheld from them to-day through the obstinacy and blindness of the Government.

The New Issue.

We present to our readers in this issue the first number of the new series. We believe that in this form it will be a still more powerful weapon to defend the cause of women. In this issue we print special articles from Mrs. Pankhurst and from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. We also draw attention to the descriptive article on "Forcible Feeding," and the opinion given by Dr. Forbes Winslow on this question. We would ask our readers to do all that is in their power to carry out the wishes of Mrs. Pankhurst and extend and increase the circulation and influence of this paper. We believe that more and more every day the woman's movement must depend upon **VOTES FOR WOMEN** for the breadth and solidity of its foundation.

FORCIBLE FEEDING.

Opinions of Medical Experts. Grave Danger to Life Involved.

Information has been obtained from various medical authorities as to the horrible process of forcible feeding which has been adopted in the case of the Suffragettes at Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham.

It is well understood in the medical profession that this process constitutes an operation, and as such cannot lawfully be performed on any sane person without his consent. It consists in the insertion of an indiarubber tube with a hard end down the throat of the patient. It is sometimes placed up through the nostrils, at other times it is inserted through the mouth.

Where the patient is deliberately refusing food, and where, contrary to his consent, he is being forced to take it, as is sometimes the case in lunatic asylums, the patient has to be held down by force by several attendants.

Introduction of the Gag.

Where feeding through the mouth is adopted it is forced open and a gag is placed into it, through which the food is forced right down the throat into the stomach.

The insertion of this tube is so painful as to cause a horrible nausea. When the tube has been pushed down the throat two different methods may be adopted. Either liquid food is simply poured into the tube by means of a funnel, or an instrument called a stomach pump is employed; in this horrible process the operator pumps up the liquid food into the tube and then forces it down the tube into the actual stomach of the patient.

This procedure is fraught with great suffering, particularly where the patient deliberately resists its application, and may result in exceedingly serious injury. In the first place, the struggles of the patient are liable to cause grave laceration of the throat by the tube. In the second place, the hard part of the tube may be brought into contact with parts of the stomach and serious injuries result. In the third place, during the entrance of the tube into the throat or its removal there is a risk that some of the food may enter the lung, and that in consequence septic pneumonia may result. Finally, owing to the struggles of the patient during the operation and the exhaustion which follows there is grave danger to the heart, and syncope may ensue. From any one of these causes death may be brought about.

A Case where Death Resulted.

In the "*Lancet*" for September 28, 1872, a case is reported of a man who was under sentence of death and who refused to take nourishment in prison. He was accordingly operated upon by means of the stomach pump, which is the method employed in order forcibly to feed the women in prison. He struggled during the operation, and his throat was seriously lacerated. He also became very much exhausted, and on the following day he died.

Dr. Moxey's Opinion.

Writing upon this in the same issue of the "*Lancet*," Dr. Anderson Moxey, M.D., M.R.C.P., said:—

"If anyone were to ask you to name the worst possible treatment for suicidal starvation I should say unhesitatingly 'Forcible feeding by means of the stomach pump.' Yet this was the procedure adopted in the foregoing case. Let us see what others say of it. Dr. Tennent remarks: 'The use of the stomach pump presents at the outset the difficult and disagreeable necessity of forcing open the mouth for the introduction of the gag, the patient meantime contending against and obstructing the efforts of the physician. Even after the gag is introduced he can constantly gnaw it, and thus there is always existing an incentive to resistance. The exhaustion introduced thereby is sometimes very great, and may even cause death by syncope.' Dr. Russell has met with such a case, in which death occurred immediately after the placing of the tube, which was violently resisted, and before it could be withdrawn, much less used."

"The effect of this instrument in this case [of the prisoner who died in gaol] was that the interior of his throat was lacerated so much that the surgeon found it useless to attempt to use the pump again. My impression from this statement, always, of course, subject to correction, is that the injury done to the man's throat was such that it would have been impossible to use the pump again, and that even had the man relented, to try to eat, he would have been unable to do so, and must have died of starvation about the time he did under any circumstances. I am the more inclined to this opinion when I refer to the experiences of the late Dr. Conolly, who was so appalled by the dangers resulting from the forcible administration of food by the mouth that he sometimes shrank from ordering its employment."

DR. FORBES WINSLOW'S OPINION.

Dr. Forbes Winslow, the eminent specialist, has very kindly sent us the following special opinion on this matter:—

"I have been asked professionally to give my views on this subject. The operation is naturally attended with certain risks, and it often leads to permanent discomfort. So far as the stomach pump is concerned, it

is an instrument I have long ago discontinued using, even in the most serious cases of melancholia, where the victim, perhaps from some religious delusion, refuses all nourishment. It possibly may be regarded by some as the most simple means of administering food, but this I challenge by saying at once that it is the most complicated and the most dangerous.

"The chief risks are severe injury to the mouth by the gag; which must be used in such cases to force the mouth open, a serious tendency to break the teeth and injure the mouth. I have known some of the most serious injuries inflicted by the persistent use of the stomach pump. I have known a case in which the tongue has been partly bitten off where it has been twisted behind the feeding tube.

Danger to Life.

"Should there be any tendency to lung weakness, then avoid such an extremity.

"Severe heart disease, or even that complaint in a mild form, is liable to cause serious consequences, even if not sudden death. Any rupture or hernia existing is rendered dangerous by this feeding. The result of this, if persisted in for a long time, would be to seriously injure the constitution, to lacerate the parts surrounding the mouth, to break and ruin the teeth. Feeding by nasal tube is less dangerous and less complicated.

"I might at once say that in normal individuals the very fact of resorting to forcible feeding is to injure the digestive organs, to aggravate any bronchial condition which may exist, and to cause dangerous chronic symptoms in those in whom it is used. It is now many years since I have cared to resort to such measures, and I should be very sorry to have occasion to advise them."

OTHER MEDICAL OPINIONS.

Mr. C. Mansell-Moullin, M.D., F.R.C.S., writes to the *Times* as a hospital surgeon of thirty years' standing to protest against the expression "hospital treatment" reported to have been made use of by Mr. Masterman in the House of Commons on Monday night, in defending the brutality shown to women at Birmingham.

"If it was used in the sense and meaning in which it appears in your columns it is a foul libel. Violence and brutality have no place in hospital, as Mr. Masterman ought to know.

"There is not a man in the United Kingdom—except those gentlemen of the House of Commons who cheered on Mr. Masterman—who does not feel absolutely sick at the revolting description. All honour to the Labour members."

Dr. H. Roberts writes to the *Manchester Guardian*:—

"To the ordinary reader the full horror of what this implies is probably not obvious. This perhaps is not the place to enter into details of the revolting torture which it involves; but as a medical man I feel compelled to raise my small protest against this latest form of official cruelty, which will quite possibly end in the insanity of some of the victims."

Dr. Rigby writes in a similar strain.

THE ALBERT HALL MEETING.

The news that by order of the Government the Women Suffragists now in Winson Green Gaol have been fed by force has had an electrical effect, and the outside public, as well as the friends of the movement, will have an opportunity at the great Albert Hall meeting on October 7 of venting their feelings of indignation at this vindictive and outrageous conduct on the part of a Liberal Government.

Members and friends are asked to take every opportunity of making this meeting widely known and of inducing others who do not yet fully understand the policy to use this opportunity of hearing the leaders on such an important occasion.

The chair will be taken by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and speeches will be made by Mrs. Pankhurst, on the eve of her departure for her United States campaign, and by Miss Christabel Pankhurst.

Tickets, which should be obtained at once from Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, 4, Clements Inn, W.C., are issued at the following prices:—Stalls, 3s.; arena, 2s. 6d.; balcony, 1s.; upper orchestra, 6d.; and boxes at various prices. The 1s. orchestra tickets are all sold. All seats are numbered except those in the upper orchestra. As the meeting is a women's demonstration all the seats will be reserved for women only, with the exception of the stalls, boxes, and arena. Unsold tickets should be returned at once to the Ticket Secretary.

THE HUNGER STRIKERS' CHALLENGE TO THE GOVERNMENT.

My life for the cause! Dare you take it?

I challenge you, offering all.

My happiness, home—I will stake it

To answer my womanhood's call.

Your fathers were mine; you forget it.

Be it said, to your lasting disgrace,

You thought you could break down the spirit

That nurtured the flower of your race

With handcuff and cell and strait-jacket,

Hard labour and insult and pain.

Oh, you talk of honour (who lack it),

Of chivalry, shelter, in vain.

My challenge is there! Dare you take it?

It is that or the vote in the end.

My all for the contest—I stake it.

On you will the issue depend.

M. D. CHOCOL.

COMMENTS OF THE PRESS.

TREATMENT OF SUFFRAGISTS IN PRISON.

We publish to-day letters protesting against the forcible feeding of the women imprisoned at Birmingham for various acts of violence. It is probable that few people realise the nature of the process thus mildly described. It involves—or it is stated to involve, for the facts need to be made quite plain, and no doubt will be by questions in Parliament—the use of processes so extreme as to be properly described as torture. We fully recognise the difficulty in which the authorities are placed by what is called the “hunger strike,” but it should not be forgotten that from the point of view of the infliction of punishment the process of self-starvation is a severe one, and that those who undergo it to the point at which it becomes dangerous to life—and they are not released before that is reached—are not lightly punished, although the penalty is not the same as that to which they were sentenced. Difficult and baffling as is the problem of punishment in the case of offenders who do wrong from the same motives which for most people are incentives to doing right, it is idle to treat them exactly as you would treat an ordinary criminal. It does not follow that they are to be allowed to offend with impunity, but it does follow that in their case, which is exceptional, there should be some reasonable adaptation of means to ends. This is precisely what has all along been lacking. The only result of treating idealistic anarchists as common criminals is to excite sympathy on their behalf and to supply colourable pleas of justification to anarchism. The object to be aimed at was not to deter by severity, for severities do not deter idealists but only so far as practicable the repetition of the offence. For this purpose the severities and indignities of “second-class” imprisonment were useless, or, rather, they defeated their own end; yet the Home Office has steadily upheld this treatment, merely mitigating it (quite illogically, though wisely) in certain details. Now, with the graver class of offences which have taken the place of the almost nominal earlier ones, and which have been in part at least provoked by the mishandling of those earlier ones, it is apparently pursuing the same course of blundering excess. Instead of seeking merely to restrain, it is again seeking to terrorise, and is stated to be doing so by means which, unless happily they should be found to be illegal, can only add fuel to the flame of passionate resentment. We do not deny the difficulty of the situation; it is great and obvious, but, after all, it is, we may hope, temporary. The time cannot be very distant when women, despite all errors and faults or even crimes committed by some of them, will get the votes to which most men, if not inflamed by resentment, admit them to be entitled. Meanwhile let the wild ones be treated mercifully and kept as far as may be out of harm's way.

—Manchester Guardian.

SUFFRAGISTS AND THE LAW.

It is by their own act that artificial feeding becomes necessary, and it can only be through their own actions that it can become anything but a very trivial infraction. If people will insist upon courting discomfort which nobody wants to inflict, that is their own affair, and there is no room for sympathy. . . . We publish a letter to-day with four rather notorious feminine signatures which speaks of the “passionate discontent” of women. The writers must speak for themselves. There is no passionate discontent among the women of this country, and, even if there were, it would not justify them in destroying property and endangering human life. Most of us desire something or other which we have not got, just as strongly as, and perhaps more reasonably than, some women desire a vote; but we do not therefore take hatchets and wreck people's houses, or even shriek hysterically because the whole course of government and society is not altered to give us what we seek. These notoriety-hunters have effectually discredited the movement they think to promote. Public interest in their proceedings is dying, and is being replaced by public disgust. They may get a few men here and there to scream in their chorus, but they are going far to convince the great mass both of men and women that the feminine vote would only be a danger to the State. —Times.

SUFFRAGE AND ANARCHY.

The line now being taken by the militant Suffragettes, and by their advocates in the House of Commons, heads straight to anarchy. This is a development which should cause serious misgiving to those who are favourable to the principle of female suffrage. The case for the suffrage accords ill with doctrines of anarchy, and every move made towards the latter will further weaken the former.

The Home Office is being bombarded with questions in the House protesting against the medical treatment of the women prisoners who refuse to take food in the ordinary way. This is a refusal which is familiar both in prisons and in lunatic asylums, and the authorities of the Birmingham prison are dealing with it in the ordinary way. It is their obvious duty to do so. It is a most unpleasant duty; but the necessity is clear.

The women will not be allowed to starve themselves; but neither will they be released because the treatment is an unpleasant necessity. In the official organ of the cause the anarchical nature of the design is frankly avowed. “Arrest and imprisonment,” we are told, “have no terrors for militant Suffragists, especially since the introduction of the ‘hunger strike,’ which makes it impossible for the authorities to withdraw them for a long period from the fighting line.” If the authorities once admitted such impossibility, there would be an end to prison discipline, for an example would be set which other prisoners might not be slow to follow. Translate the argument of the militants into an address to thieves, and the anarchical nature of the doctrine becomes at once apparent.

The Suffragette movement is now being frankly placed by some of its leaders on a basis of physical force—with this

implied difference: that the women are to strike, and the authorities only to be beaten. The militant Suffragettes, we are told, are as brave as any men; but because they are women they are to be treated with special indulgence if they refuse the prison food. The absurdity of this position occurs to everybody, and the perception of it will not make converts to the cause.

The rule of “no physical violence” must now, writes Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, be abandoned. The “militant tactics” are to be pursued, writes Miss Christabel Pankhurst, “no matter though social order and harmony be for a time destroyed.” The same writer adds that for any effect upon “public order and safety” the Government, and not the disturbers of the peace, will be responsible. This, again, is the language of anarchy. The best way of realising the fact is, as before, to translate the argument of the Suffragettes into terms applicable to other members of society. Women are not the only people who have no Parliamentary votes. A great many men are in like case, and their disenfranchisement is often peculiarly unfair. Take, for instance, the numerous working men who, owing to the “mobility of labour,” fail to obtain the residential qualification which the law requires. Would such men be justified in molesting individuals, throwing stones, and threatening public order and safety? The women, we are told, will go no further in the use of violence “than the interest of their cause may require.” They have gone too far already. They are alienating sympathy and stiffening opposition every day. The cause of Women's Suffrage will make no advance until it is cleared from the taint of anarchy.

—Daily Chronicle.

Mr. Masterman's reply to the question put to him on Monday on the subject of the compulsory feeding of women prisoners was no doubt as unpleasant for him to give as it was unpleasant to hear. We regret that so repellent a course should have been adopted; but we admit the dilemma of the authorities. . . . It is the only alternative to allowing the women to starve themselves. When that course, which we think preferable, has been adopted by previous prisoners, the protests of their friends have been equally passionate, and with some reason, for in those cases the women were not convicted of violence and were entitled to be treated as first-class prisoners. The present case is different. . . . Apart from these alternatives there is no way out except for the Government to set the women free, and confess that they cannot carry out the sentences of the Court. The remedy, as we have said, is for the women to carry on their campaign, militantly as they like, but at least without wrecking their cause by criminal acts.

—Daily News.

There are only two alternatives to the sensible action of the Birmingham authorities. The women might be allowed to starve themselves to death, or they might be released and so escape their punishment and gain their desire of bringing the law into contempt. . . . It comes to this then, that Mr. Hardie thinks the Government ought to release any prisoner who chooses to refuse prison food. It is a grotesque conclusion.

MR. KEIR HARDIE'S PROTEST.

Writing to the Press, Mr. Keir Hardie says: “That there is difference of opinion concerning the tactics of the militant Suffragettes goes without saying, but surely there can be no two opinions concerning the horrible brutality of this proceeding? Women, worn and weak by hunger, are seized upon, held down by brute force, gagged, a tube inserted down the throat, and food poured or pumped into the stomach. Let British men think over the spectacle.

“I endeavoured to learn from Mr. Masterman under what law, rule, or regulation this thing had been done, but he was unable to say without notice. He admitted, however, that it had been done by order of the Home Office. My information is that there is no such power given to prison authorities save in the case of persons certified to be insane. If this be so, a very serious responsibility rests with the Home Office.

“May I add one more remark? I was horrified at the levity displayed by a large section of the members of the House when the question was being answered. Had I not heard it I could not have believed that a body of gentlemen could have found reason for mirth and applause in a scene which I venture to say has no parallel in the recent history of our country. One of these days we shall learn that Mrs. Leigh or some other of her brave fellow-prisoners has succumbed to the ‘hospital treatment,’ as a man did in 1870. I would not envy the position of the Home Secretary or the Government responsible for such a result. Surely the people of these islands will speak out ere our annals are stained by such a tragedy.”

(Other press comments will be found on page 5.)

“VOTES FOR WOMEN” NEWSPAPER.

In view of the production of VOTES FOR WOMEN in its new form, an opportunity is afforded to members and friends to put forth special efforts to increase the circulation. Those able to take part in selling the paper in London streets should call at 4, Clements Inn and ask for Miss Ainsworth or Miss Barbara Ayrton. Those who can give similar help elsewhere should put themselves in communication with the organisers whose names and addresses appear on page 12 (The Campaign Throughout the Country).

The weekly numbers from October 1, 1908, to September 24, 1909, forming a complete year, have been bound up in a yearly volume, which includes a carefully prepared index. The volume is bound in the colours of the Union, and on the front cover is a reproduction of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst's beautiful design. The price is 10s. 6d., post free to any address in the United Kingdom, 11s. 3d. The index may be obtained separately for 6d., and members own copies will be bound up at 6s. 6d., or 7s. 3d. including postage.

THE SCOTTISH DEMONSTRATION.

The hour for the great demonstration on October 9, which will be at once a show of the strength of the militant movement in Scotland and a call to the Scottish women who have not yet done their part, is drawing near, and workers are busy with the final arrangements for an impressive and beautiful spectacle. Banners, bands, and pipers will lend colour and sound to the stirring sight of groups representing noted Scotswomen of history, followed by the more modern figures of university women in their robes, members in the colours, Newhaven fishwives, nurses, business women, artists, musicians, etc. Among the historic figures will be Lady Mersington, who was hanged in 1675 for going on a deputation to Parliament; Jean Maxwell, the Duchess of Gordon, who raised the Gordon Highlanders; Margaret Wilson and Margaret McLaughlin, who were drowned for their faith; Queen Margaret, who brought Christianity to Scotland; Devorgilla, wife of Baliol; Marion Braidfoot, who died rather than betray her husband, Wallace; the Countess of Buchan, who was imprisoned for crowning Bruce; Jenny Geddes, Grisel Cochrane, Flora MacDonald, as well as Lady Wardlaw, Lady Anne Lindsay, Lady Nairne, and other celebrated song-writers. Many of the banners will bear well-known and appropriate mottoes, such as:—“A' are no' friends that speak us fair,” “A bauld fae is better than a cowardly friend,” “A gude cause makes a strong arm,” “Better do it than wish it done,” “Do weel and dread nae shame,” “Either live or die with honour,” “Freedom's a fair thing,” “Nae gain without pain,” “Step by step climbs the hill,” “What's gude for John is gude for Janet,” “Wrang has nae warrant.”

Miss Greenlees has given the Edinburgh banner, the Dumfries women have collected £2 12s. 6d. for a standard, Stirling women are giving a banner for that town. Glasgow members have a banner in hand, and Miss Hay has given a banner for Berwick, which will be carried by Berwick fishermen. A national banner for the head of the procession is still needed. Will any friend come forward to supply this? Miss Watson, of Leith, and Miss McDougal, of Broxburn, will lead off the procession, and the bagpipes will be decorated in the purple, white, and green. Mrs. Kennedy Fraser is collecting the group of artistes and musicians.

Led by the colour-bearer, Mrs. Haverfield, on horseback, and by lady pipers, the procession will start at 2.30 p.m. from Bruntsfield Links, and march via Tollcross, Lothian Road, and Princes Street to Waverley Market, where a mass meeting will be addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss C. Pankhurst, and others. Volunteers for any and every form of the work inseparable from such a great demonstration will be welcomed at the offices, 63, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

Miss Methven, who is Hospitality Secretary, will be glad to hear of any Edinburgh members who will give hospitality to those who come from a distance.

The banners sent from local centres must be in the hands of Mrs. Drummond not later than October 4.

MAKE YOUR BABY
WELL AND STRONG
BY USING A

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GOVERNMENT'S ASSAULT ON SUFFRAGETTES.

FIRST STEP TAKEN TOWARDS LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE AUTHORITIES.

The whole of the country has been startled, and severely shocked, by the news during the past week of the treatment of the Suffrage prisoners in Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham. It will be remembered that having been not only excluded from the meeting, but even from the streets outside the hall where Mr. Asquith was speaking, the Suffragists, in order to make an effective protest, were forced to take stronger measures than usual, and from the roofs of adjoining houses they threw missiles at the windows and roofs of Bingley Hall and at Mr. Asquith's motor-car. After being most roughly handled and soaked to the skin by the water from a hose pipe, the women were arrested and received heavy sentences, in two cases with hard labour. Firm in their determination to protest, Mrs. Leigh and her eight comrades (Misses Edwards, Hall, Capper, Marsh, Ainsworth, Woodlock, Barnwell, and Burkitt) at once adopted the hunger-strike. The Government, however, decided to take the most drastic measures, and the deepest resentment and indignation have been aroused by the admission in Parliament that forcible feeding was resorted to, in order to deprive the women of the effective weapon of hunger-striking. An expert from the Home Office attended at the prison on Wednesday last week, and saw the female prisoners in company with the medical officer, Dr. Dolby, with whom he had a consultation. Then a further communication was made with the Home Office, and the Home Secretary gave Dr. Dolby authority to feed the prisoners by force.

All definite information has been refused, but it is evident from the replies in the House of Commons that at least six of these women are persisting with incredible heroism in their firm resolve not to take food except by force. They are accordingly being subjected to this torture, probably two or three times a day, and in some cases, if not all, the degradation and torture of the stomach pump has been applied.

With dauntless courage and regardless of consequences the women protested in the other ways still open to them, refused to obey prison rules, and are said to have broken their windows, furniture, utensils, etc. The protests they knew would involve greater suffering. According to reports the most rigorous punishment was ordered by the visiting justices, and after a severe struggle some of the women were handcuffed and sent to solitary confinement.

Legal Proceedings.

On the reception of this news in London, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and a solicitor visited the prison, but were refused any information. The firm of solicitors acting for the Union also sent the following telegram to the Governor of Winson Green Gaol on Friday last:—

"As solicitors for Leigh, Marsh, and Suffragette prisoners, may we interview them 11.30 to-morrow?"

This telegram they confirmed in the letter following:—

"We wired you to-day that we were acting as solicitors for Mrs. Leigh, Miss Marsh, and other Suffragette prisoners, and wished to see them at 11.30 to-morrow, but we have received no reply. We are instructed to advise them on the question of the alleged compulsory enforcing of food on them and to take their statements. If you have not already replied, we shall be glad to hear from you with an appointment to-morrow, so that we may come down by train specially for that purpose. We have formally applied to the Home Secretary for permission."

At the same time they sent a letter by hand to the Home Secretary as follows:—

"We have been instructed on behalf of Mrs. Leigh, Miss Charlotte Marsh, and the other Suffragette prisoners now confined in Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham, in connection with the legality of the treatment, reported in to-day's paper, administered to them in the shape of food being supplied compulsorily. We wish to interview them and take their statements as their legal advisers, and have telegraphed the governor of the gaol for an appointment to see them at 11.30 to-morrow. In the meantime we shall be glad if you will kindly give us the order for admission to the prison and permission to see them."

The Home Office Reply.

To this last they received from the Home Office the reply which follows:—

"Gentlemen,—I have laid before the Secretary of State your letter of the 24th instant requesting permission to pay a special visit to Mrs. Leigh and other prisoners in Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, and I am directed by him to say in reply that the proper course for any prisoner desiring to complain of his or her medical treatment in prison is to make a

complaint to the Visiting Committee of the prison, and he cannot, therefore, accede to your application for a special visit. The Secretary of State will arrange that immediate facilities are given for the hearing by the Visiting Committee of any complaint that may be made by the prisoners mentioned in your letter."

Upon receipt of this reply the solicitors again wrote to the Home Office:—

"We desire to draw attention to Rule 72 (6) of the existing Prison Rules, and to make it clear, as we pointed out at our interview, that we wish to see Mrs. Leigh and the other prisoners as their legal advisers, on legal business—namely, the legality of the action of the authorities in forcing food upon them. We sincerely trust that owing to the urgency of the matter you will see your way to give us the permission at once."

Definite Refusal.

On Tuesday Mr. Troup, on behalf of the Home Office, wrote to the solicitors as follows:—

"I have laid before the Secretary of State your letter of the 27th instant, renewing your request for an interview with Mrs. Leigh and other prisoners in Birmingham Prison, and in reply I have to say that he must adhere to his decision in this matter. It can scarcely be the desire of the prisoners' friends that the prisoners should be allowed by the prison authorities deliberately to endanger their own health or lives. The authorities would incur a grave responsibility if they did not adopt an effective means both to prevent such wrongful conduct and to avert its serious consequences on the prisoners themselves. The objections of the prisoners' friends or associates to the medical treatment rendered necessary in these circumstances do not, the Secretary of State is advised, justify the assertion that any 'legal business' exists within the meaning of Rule 72 (6)."

"As pointed out in my previous letter, it is open to the prisoners to make any complaint in this matter to the Visiting Committee, as they are fully aware of the right to do so."

An Ultimatum

On Wednesday the following letter on behalf of the prisoners was sent to the Home Secretary, and a similar letter was also sent to the governor and doctor of Winson Green Gaol:—

"We have been instructed on behalf of Miss —, now a prisoner in Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham, that an unjustifiable assault has been committed on her by the prison officials, acting under your authority, in the way of forcing food upon her and against her will. We are instructed to take proceedings against you to recover damages for the assault, and as required by the Public Authorities Protection Act, 1893, we hereby give you the opportunity of making amends. Unless we receive a satisfactory answer from you in this respect by Saturday morning, October 2, we shall proceed."

Protests.

Many letters of protest have appeared in the Press, and in an interview Mr. Forbes Robertson describes this treatment of women who are political offenders as "perfectly monstrous." At Swansea, Mr. Keir Hardie called it "a shameful and scandalous misuse of the powers vested in our prison authorities." "What do you think," he said, "of the latest attitude of the Home Secretary? The methods adopted by the women now in Birmingham Gaol of refusing to take food have even in Russia been successfully practised by women prisoners. Some of those women at Birmingham have been compelled by force to take food. (Cries of "Shame.") What that means is five, six, or eight strong warders struggling with one helpless and weakened woman, fixing tubes in her nostrils, and pumping the food into her. I ask you, does not manhood revolt at such treatment?" (Cheers.)

Indignant questions have also been put in the House of Commons to the Home Secretary, a report of which will be found below.

The Suffragettes in Birmingham visited the prison gates every night, accompanied by a brass band, followed by thousands of people, and by their cheers and bugle calls prove to the brave spirits inside that their comrades appreciate their courage and devotion.

Miss Wurrle's Sentence.

Miss Evelyn Wurrle, who had been acquitted and then re-arrested for breaking a police-court window, was charged on Friday last. Her explanation was that she did it as a protest against being kept in a cell for seventeen hours without being charged, and although there was no evidence she was not allowed bail, and had to sleep on a plank. She was fined 11s., or in default seven days' hard labour, and chose the imprisonment, but was liberated on reaching prison, as her fine had been paid by "a member of the Birmingham Liberal Club."

Release of Miss Ainsworth.

Miss Ainsworth's sentence will expire on October 5, and she will be welcomed at a meeting in the evening, at which Mrs. Pankhurst will speak.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

In the House of Commons on Monday, September 27, Mr. Keir Hardie asked the Home Secretary, after giving private notice of the question, whether he had official information concerning the state of health of Mrs. Leigh and Miss Charlotte Marsh, prisoners at Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, and whether it had been found necessary to administer food to three women by force, and if so under what authority that had been done.

Mr. Masterman: I do not think that that is the exact form of any question of which private notice has been given to me, but probably my answer will cover the ground. The medical officer of Birmingham Prison reported that certain women prisoners were persistently refusing to take food. The Prison Commissioners, therefore, with the approval of the Home Secretary, instructed the medical officer to apply such medical treatment as was in his opinion necessary to prevent the risk of their committing suicide by starvation. (Cheers.)

Mr. Keir Hardie: Will the hon. gentleman say under what authority this action was taken; under what Act or prison regulations?

Mr. Snowden (Blackburn, Lab.): What does the hon. gentleman mean by medical treatment? What was the kind of medical treatment administered to these women, and was it by force?

Mr. Masterman: The authority is the general responsibility of the Prison Commissioners to the Home Secretary. (Cheers.) There are no special regulations in the matter beyond the general duty of those in charge of prisoners to prevent them from committing the felony of suicide.

Mr. Snowden: Is it the fact that food has been administered to these women by force? The hon. gentleman has not given an answer to that.

Mr. Masterman: Certainly. The treatment is the ordinary hospital treatment in such cases, and such as has been frequently applied both to men and women who are contumacious, or weak-minded persons refusing food. Nine women altogether were in such a condition as to be reported by the medical officer as necessitating this treatment for their health, and I rather gather that some of them at the last moment found no necessity to persist in their resistance to food, and that the application of the full hospital treatment was only made in the case of one of the nine.

Mr. Keir Hardie: Will the hon. gentleman say what is meant by the phrase "full hospital application"? Has the food been pumped through the nostrils or administered by a tube inserted down the throat?

Mr. Masterman: I think that the ordinary method is the second described.

Mr. Keir Hardie: That is to say, a tube inserted in the stomach and food pumped through it. A horrible, beastly outrage.

Mr. Snowden: Will the hon. gentleman make application to the Russian Government to send over experts in the most brutal and up-to-date methods of barbarism? (Laughter, and cries of "Oh!")

Mr. Keir Hardie: Is it a fact that a responsible firm of solicitors acting for these ladies has applied for leave to interview them and obtain their own statement, and the request has been refused, and if so, on what grounds?

Mr. Masterman: I must have notice of that question.

Mr. Byles (Salford, N., Min.): Whatever the treatment was, is it due to the law of the land and not to the Home Secretary or the Government?

Mr. Masterman: There is nothing different in it from the treatment in other cases of a similar nature.

Mr. Keir Hardie: The last man died who was treated in this way.

Tuesday.

On Tuesday afternoon, September 28, Mr. Keir Hardie asked whether the Home Office had any official information concerning the state of the health of the nine women prisoners in Winson Green Gaol, Birmingham; how many of them had been subjected to "hospital treatment," and whether he could say under what prison rule and regulations one of these prisoners, Mrs. Leigh, has had food pumped down her throat against her will.

Mr. Belloc: I should like to ask whether it is not a fact that a man in prison for a petty offence in this very year was flogged, and after his flogging refused to take food, was submitted to this treatment and died?

The Speaker: The hon. gentleman must give notice of that.

Mr. Masterman: In answer to Mr. Keir Hardie, the Secretary of State has received a report this morning from the Governor of Birmingham Prison to the effect that six of the Suffragist prisoners are still under special medical treatment for self-starvation, and that in consequence of this treatment the condition of health of these prisoners shows progressive improvement. (Cheers and laughter.) No prison rule or regulation deals specifically with

this subject. It is the duty of the prison authorities to take such steps as are necessary to prevent prisoners committing suicide or doing themselves personal violence. If they allowed any of their prisoners to cause their own death by starvation they would incur the severest censure, if, indeed, they did not lay themselves open to criminal proceedings. In previous similar cases of this kind the prison authorities have always recognised this fact.

Mr. K. Hardie: Are six of these women still being fed by means of the stomach pump?

Mr. Masterman: The information I have received is that there are various means of persuading these women to take nourishment, and that only in the last resort is the ordinary hospital instrument used. I believe that has only been used in three cases.

Mr. K. Hardie: I say nothing about the points of law; they will be dealt with elsewhere; but I want to know whether one of the methods has been to use the stomach pump on one of the prisoners in presence of all the others?

Mr. Masterman: I am afraid I have no information on that, but I should think it is inaccurate.

Mr. Belloc: May I not ask whether the pump has not been used in the case of men very often, and that no questions have proceeded from the Labour bench or elsewhere? (Hear, hear.)

The Speaker: Notice should be given of that.

Mr. Snowden: Is it a fact that these women are bound in irons during the time they are under this treatment?

Mr. Masterman: I do not think so; I will make further inquiry, but my own information is that it is done entirely by female warders in the presence of the doctor, who is in charge.

Mr. Lupton: Will it not lead to an amelioration of affairs if all these women were discharged from prison at once? (Laughter.)

No answer was given.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETINGS IN BIRMINGHAM.

The meeting on September 24 in the Temperance Hall, Birmingham, following on the events at Bingley Hall, aroused tremendous interest. Long before the time for the doors to open a large crowd had gathered, and an enormous overflow meeting had to be held in the Bull Ring, where Miss Christabel Pankhurst had a magnificent reception. Prolonged cheers greeted the announcement that Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst would both speak. Referring to Bingley Hall, Miss Keevil said, "When people come and profusely criticise our methods I am sometimes inclined to silence them, like my old Scotch nurse, by saying, 'Fools and bairns should not look at half-done work,' but as there are many here who are neither fools nor bairns, Miss Pankhurst will be very pleased to explain to you the necessity for the action taken by the women on Friday last."

Miss Pankhurst was welcomed in a most enthusiastic manner by the audience, a portion of which had evidently come to heckle, and, if possible, break up the meeting. Miss Pankhurst assured them that they would not receive the treatment dealt out to men at Mr. Asquith's meeting; in short, the interrupters would be allowed to remain in the hall, as she was not afraid of remarks they might make. She then traced the tactics of the W.S.P.U. from their peaceful start in 1905 to their determined stand of to-day. Miss Pankhurst was in her happiest vein, and save for a few interruptions, to which she replied most brilliantly, the address was only punctuated with applause.

Miss Evelyn Wurrle, who had been arrested and sentenced to a week's imprisonment, was on the platform owing to the fact that her fine had been paid by a Liberal. It had been reported in the evening papers that Miss Wurrle had torn her badge, stamped upon it, and seceded entirely from the Union. She was present in her full regalia, and satisfactorily proved her determination to continue working for the cause.

Mrs. Pankhurst made a most impressive speech, which held the audience spellbound. Her statement that the leaders took upon themselves full responsibility for the actions of the brave women who were then in Winson Gaol called forth great enthusiasm. Referring to the *Daily News*, which had appealed to her to say the word that would stop the present phase of the agitation, she said:—"It is very good of the editor of the *Daily News* to credit me with so much power, but I want to say that the women in this movement are in it not at my behest or at my request, but because they feel a burning desire to promote this cause of votes for women, and if I were so false to this movement as to turn

coward now and ask them to stop, I believe and I hope that they would refuse to stop because of my appeal. But I cannot make any such appeal with a full sense of my responsibility. As one of the foremost movers in this agitation, I say I have more hope of success now than I ever had during nearly thirty years of patient agitation."

Questions were answered by Mrs. Pankhurst to the full and complete satisfaction of the audience, and at the announcement that she would be speaking again in Birmingham on December 14 the audience once more expressed its delight and appreciation by hearty and prolonged cheers.

AN ECHO OF BINGLEY HALL.

The Attitude of the Crowd on Sept. 17.

I met by accident to-day an old friend of mine from the country, a working man, Liberal in politics and keenly interested in social questions. He had just come back from Birmingham, where he had been attending the Conference in connection with the Adult School movement, and had been in the crowd outside Bingley Hall on Friday in last week. I was naturally interested to hear at first-hand some account of the doings in connection with Mr. Asquith's meeting.

"How many people do you think were there?" I asked.

"At least sixty or seventy thousand."

"What was your impression of the temper and spirit of the crowd?"

"Fully eighty per cent. displayed great interest and enthusiasm for the pluck of the women."

"Do you think the crowd was mostly composed of Liberals or Unionists?"

"I think the large majority were Liberals—very few Unionists."

"Did you see the actual arrests?"

"I saw one. The policemen were certainly exceedingly rough with her, and cheer after cheer was raised for the Suffragettes, intermixed with much hissing and booing at the policeman who made the arrest. I heard one significant bit of conversation between a Liberal and a Unionist, one of whom referred to the work in the Revising Courts, and spoke of the apathy and indifference that men were displaying to obtain the vote, and compared it with the keenness that the women were displaying in their energetic methods of obtaining it. I also heard an enormous amount of cheering for the girls who were on the roof. The ingenuity, no less than the pluck, of the women called forth the admiration of the crowd. There were some ugly rushes, but, as far as I could see, they were engineered by the police, as the crowd was so sympathetic that there was a constant danger they would rush the barriers, or, at any rate, rescue the women. I was in the crowd for fully two hours, and I did not hear one word either against the justice of the women having the vote or against their tactics; but, on the other side, I heard expressions of opinion that there was no solution to the present position but by meeting the women's demand for political enfranchisement. I think, of all places, Mr. Asquith made a mistake in going to Birmingham, as Birmingham men have always been noted for their love of fair play and political freedom."

"Did you hear the subject of Votes for Women referred to in your Conference of Adult Schools, because this would be interesting in view of the fact that these schools are the education ground for the best type of Midland working men?"

"Yes, the subject generally occupied our attention to the exclusion of the subjects on which we were supposed to meet."

"And what was the general trend of opinion?"

"It was absolutely unanimous in favour of giving the franchise to women. I never heard one word on the other side."

I asked my friend especially if he heard anything in this Conference against the tactics of the women.

"No," he replied, "I freely expressed my opinions, which are favourable, and no one contradicted me or went against me in any way. The only criticism at all was that one delegate expressed regret that such tactics should ever become necessary in order to obtain political freedom. Two lady members of the Conference, who were known to be Suffragettes, received quite an ovation when they came into the Conference."

M. N.

A passage in Miss Pankhurst's letter seems to show that she would be content with "the enactment of a measure giving votes to such women as fulfil the qualifications entitling men to vote." On the ground of reason and justice, the case for such a reform is, as we have admitted, unanswerable.

—Western Daily Press.

FRESH SUMMONSES AGAINST LANCASHIRE PRISONERS.

A proof of the vindictive attitude of the Government is to be found in the fact that they have issued summonses for damage to prison property against some of the Liverpool prisoners who were recently released after hunger-striking. For their action the women had already received punishment and solitary confinement, but notwithstanding this a summons has been served on Miss Clarkson, and the police are now attempting to find Miss Robinson. It should be noted that these proceedings have not been instituted by the Liverpool authorities, but by direct order of the Home Office. It is significant that the damage done by Miss Clarkson is estimated at 6d., and that done by Miss Robinson at 1s. 6d. It is rumoured that Mrs. Leigh, one of the Birmingham prisoners on whom the outrageous system of forcible feeding has been practised, will be brought from Birmingham to Liverpool on October 8, to be tried on the charge of damage; will then be sent to serve any sentence that may be imposed, and afterwards sent back to Birmingham to finish her four months' hard labour.

AT THE ST. JAMES'S HALL.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst presided at last Thursday's At Home in the St. James's Hall. In the course of a "fighting" speech she dealt with the recent disturbances in Birmingham, and showed how the Women's Social and Political Union had once more entirely dominated the situation. "When the history of these times is written," said Miss Pankhurst, "and is read by the people of future generations, the speeches of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Balfour will fade into insignificance compared with the historic protest made by our women at Birmingham." Continuing, Miss Pankhurst pointed out that the whole object of the W.S.P.U. was to overshadow everything done by the Government, and to make Votes for Women the first political question of the day. Referring to previous political riots in Birmingham, Miss Pankhurst instanced the famous Aston riots of 1867, and the more recent occasion during the late South African war, when Mr. Lloyd George was forced to escape from the intentions of a hostile crowd by disguising himself as a policeman. Dealing with the alleged injuries to the police by members of the Union, Miss Pankhurst pointed out that the policeman said to be injured had neither been placed upon sick pay, nor had he applied for medical aid. Miss Pankhurst then dealt with the heavy sentences passed on the brave women who protested at the Prime Minister's meeting, and said that the Union would take legal action if the Government endeavoured to overcome the hunger strike by means of forcible feeding. Her references to the men who had protested on behalf of the women at Bingley Hall evoked much applause from the large audience.

Miss Georgina Brackenbury dealt with the various arguments raised by opponents of woman suffrage, and pointed out that while a woman, even though she might be dishonourable, was not considered unwomanly until she broke into active revolt, yet men, even when they used violence, were not considered unmanly unless they stooped to dishonour. Miss Brackenbury told some amusing stories of the experiences of herself and her sister while selling VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence also addressed the meeting, and in speaking of some of the laws which deal unjustly with women, instanced the super-tax in the Finance Bill. Speaking of the militant tactics, he outlined the history of the movement during the last three years, and showed that the recent protests in Birmingham were the logical outcome of the tactics, and were only adopted by women when they were driven to them by the Government.

THE DUNDEE PROTEST.

Two correspondents, signing themselves "Justice" and "Democrat" respectively, have written to the Dundee papers protesting against Baillie Robertson's presence on the bench on the occasion of the Suffragettes' trial recently. Baillie Robertson, they point out, is a well-known supporter of the Dundee Liberal Association, and occupied a prominent position on the platform of Mr. Samuel's Budget meeting in the Kinnaird Hall, when the Suffragettes made the protest for which they were arrested. Both these writers think that Baillie Robertson should have vacated the bench for some other magistrate, not a member of the local Liberal Association, and one who could, therefore, have looked at the affair impartially.

MORE PRESS COMMENTS.

TORTURE.

These, it is said, are the days of the new Liberalism. If the information as to the proceedings in the Winson Green Prison, at Birmingham, which is being dragged out of the Home Office just now, is a specimen of the new Liberalism, there can be no doubt of its entire novelty. There may, however, be some grounds for asking what claim it has to be called "Liberalism."

It used to be understood that Liberals stood very firmly for liberty and freedom. Liberals have been prepared to turn Europe upside down for the sake of the Armenians. They have stood in defence of political offenders in Russia, who by bombs and daggers have striven to right their wrongs. They have worn themselves out in making excuses for cattle-drivers, incendiaries, and boycotters in Ireland. And all these things have been done in the holy name of freedom, and they have counted it to themselves for righteousness that they did them. It is different now.

Just look at the thing for a moment as an outsider, a Russian, or an Irishman might look at it. There are in England to-day a number—a very great number—of women striving for what they consider their freedom. In the course of their struggle they made themselves unpleasant, disturbed meetings, made demonstrations. Because of this they were imprisoned—not in the first class, to which, as political offenders, they were entitled, but in the second class. Protesting against this, they became more violent, and it was plain that they were in very deadly earnest. Further measures were taken against them, and they evolved the hunger strike. The friends of freedom and guardians of liberty, in the shape of a Liberal Government, are now engaged in defeating that with the stomach-pump.

Moreover, Liberals are to be found to defend the action. They declare that the women were starving themselves "because they wanted to get out of prison." That excuse might be worth making were it not for the fact that no prisoners have been released till the authorities knew that to keep them another hour would probably prove fatal. Does any man in his senses suppose that these women would deliberately bring themselves to the very door of death for the sake of getting out of a few weeks in prison? If so, he had better go without food himself for three days, and see what it feels like.

Their aim has been to create an intolerable position, and, holding the views they do, it is a perfectly justifiable aim. They are fighting for their own freedom, and they are fighting with an absolute devotion which has few parallels in history. They have faced insult, hatred, and injury. They have endured hardships, suffering, and the scorn of an uncomprehending world. And now they have been physically tortured by order of a Liberal Government.

Mr. Masterman said yesterday that this is done because if any of the prisoners were allowed to starve themselves to death the prison authorities would lay themselves open to "the severest censure." Is he so pitifully ignorant of the spirit that lives in the Suffragists as to suppose that he is going to break it by waving a stomach-pump? Does he imagine that he and his chief have solved the riddle? They are mistaken.

These women have not hesitated to imperil their lives, and that not once or twice, or in one way only. No one who is aware of the faith that lives in them or who has watched their complete devotion to their cause can doubt that, should the necessity arise, there are those among them who will take the next step. Herbert Gladstone and Charles Masterman will, no doubt, call it suicide. Some of us will know a truer word for it.

—Manchester Daily Dispatch.

THE TACTICS OF VIOLENCE.

We hope that the general body of Women Suffragists will pause before they give their leaders full authority to pursue the tactics of violence which have been formally adopted and acted upon at Birmingham and elsewhere, and are avowed and excused in a remarkable letter to the *Times* by Miss Christabel Pankhurst. It is necessary to see what these methods are. They include gross personal assaults on the Prime Minister, and other members of the present Government, who cannot resent them physically on the ground of personal dignity and the feeling which forbids a man of refinement to strike a woman who attacks him. They also involve the throwing of stones or "metal missiles" into the private houses of Ministers, into crowded public meetings, into street throngs, and into railway carriages, without regard to the fact that physical injury, even death, may be the result. . . . We think we may say that these tactics are unexampled in British politics. . . . Women, having succeeded notably in the not unimportant business of vividly interesting a part of their own sex in political business, and of converting a great number of men to the Suffrage, must take to the one course of public action for which they are unfitted, and in which they are bound to fail. We suppose they will persist in it. But it is the action of a friend to point out that under the form in which they have resorted to force, they have laid themselves open to the most severe form of reproof, and have left their leaders convicted, by their own words and by

the form of political association they have adopted, of a responsibility which was never sought by Mr. Parnell, never brought home to him, and never justly attributed to him. . . . They have, indeed, made two mistakes, both of them springing from the original miscalculation. They thought that women could use force effectively, when it was clear that they could not so use it, and they hoped to frighten men—not in itself a worthy end—when they have merely irritated them into a blank denial of women's capacity to act with discretion in public life, or into a more rational refusal to concede a great change of political power in response to a calculated resort to violence. . . . As practical politics the cause has gone back, and the mere willingness of enthusiastic young women to endure great physical privations, in the hope that they may win converts to their cause, will not advance that special phase of the women's movement. It will cause the State some inconvenience, and it will give pain and regret to individuals. But it will not alter the fact that the question of the women's vote is submitted to a jury of men, which has been so handled by the women's counsel that small hope remains of a favourable verdict.

However, we do not expect that these arguments of ours will appeal to the "militant" section. They will go on, as men and women go on in wrong courses, because they do not know how to draw back. It is, therefore, a case for the general body of Women Suffragists to intervene before it is too late. . . . In spite of the unfavourable appearances of the hour, we hope to see a Women's Suffrage Bill carried into law, though we cannot put our fingers on the statesman in either party who has the will or the power to do it. But many of the most powerful friends of such a policy are reduced to silence and to shame; they can only leave it to women to put themselves and their sisters right with a world which, on the whole, is still, we hope, willing to do them justice.—*The Nation*.

THE "DAILY NEWS" ADVICE.

The reply of Mrs. Pankhurst, reported in our issue of Saturday, to our appeal to her is very regrettable. What were the facts upon which we based that appeal? Certain of her followers had seized the occasion of Mr. Asquith's visit to Birmingham to adopt methods of violence far exceeding anything that had gone before. Among other things they had thrown an iron bar at the train containing the Premier, and had smashed one of the carriage windows. We pointed out that proceedings of this sort were not merely criminal: they were the worst of tactics. If as the result of such frenzied conduct tragedy were to ensue, it would be the end of the suffrage movement for a long time to come. For what these women forget is that their cause must win the sanction of public opinion, and public opinion, so far from being converted by these methods, is driven into hostility not merely to these foolish advocates of the cause but to the cause itself. "Votes for women" may well pray to-day to be saved from its friends. And it was because we believe in the cause that we asked Mrs. Pankhurst, who has called the militant movement into existence, to check the wilder spirits in her camp and to stop the violent developments, if not in the interests of order at least in the interests of the cause she has at heart. She replies that we attribute too much authority to her, and that even if she had the power she would not exercise it. We do not exaggerate her influence. She, and she alone, has the power to stop these proceedings. Since she declines to declare her disapproval of violence she must be held morally responsible for any consequences. That will be small satisfaction to sincere friends of women's suffrage who see the cause put out of court by the action of a few irresponsible women.

We do not know what authority Mr. Keir Hardie had for his statement on Saturday that the women convicted of the Birmingham outrage were being compulsorily fed. The reports on the subject in the Press have been unofficial, and we hope that they are unfounded. We should deplore the adoption of such a repulsive proceeding. We should prefer that the women should starve themselves out of gaol. But we admit the grave difficulty of the authorities in the case of women convicted not of technical offences but of serious outrage. The matter here again rests with Mrs. Pankhurst. We have always insisted that women "politicals" convicted of technical assaults and obstruction should be treated as first-class misdemeanants. But such a claim cannot be made for those convicted of deliberate and calculated violence. Neither law nor common sense can take account of "politicals" in that connection. The remedy is with Mrs. Pankhurst. Let her confine her movement to legitimate obstruction and the public will endorse her claim that her convicted supporters should be treated as political prisoners. We repeat that in this matter it is public opinion alone that counts.

—Daily News.

The Suffragist

AN ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Dealing with

THE LIGHTER SIDE

of the

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No. 1

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BOOK OF THE WEEK.

Fairy Tales and Philosophy.*

"So Ravenslocks married the prince and went to live in the king's palace; and they lived happy ever afterwards."

What wonderful days were those, when we could forget the unprofitableness of sums and spelling, curled up in our favourite hiding place in the hay loft or the lumber room, wrapt away in blissful vision of a world where everything that happened was worth while, and where everybody who was good was beautiful, and rose serene above all machinations of the crafty and the cruel, and met the lover who was always a prince in disguise, and lived for ever after in a rosy world of happiness and love.

If we want to revive something of that old glamour we cannot do better than take up Mrs. Kenneth Brown's book and read her stories from the "Life of Turkish Women." There we find all the familiar setting of the fairy tales of childhood; the marble courts, the high-walled gardens where roses bloom and fountains play and the nightingales for ever sing, the attendance of beautiful and adoring slaves, garments of shimmering gauze and jewels, woven, it would seem, from the sunset or the dawn, amazing feasts spread before gorgeous reclining queens, an enchanted kingdom of luxury and loveliness laid at the feet of the thrice happy "fairest fair" whom the prince, her husband, has honoured by his worship; a world where romance and love are all in all.

It is essentially a book for women. It goes right down deep into that part of a woman's heart which is primeval and everlasting, and subsists through childhood, youth, and age. That is the magic of it. I gave it to the most practical, the most occidental, the shrewdest, and the most matter-of-fact woman I know. A woman who is supposed by her friends to be without an atom of sentiment and a confirmed spinster to boot. "Put yourself to sleep with it to-night," I said, with a twinkle of the eye. She confessed that she had not been able to put the book down till the last page was turned, but read on enthralled. Yes, "The Life of Turkish Women" has the magician's secret; and I say to the women weighted with responsibility and affairs, give yourself a mental holiday. Shut out the world and make certain of security from its interruptions. Heap up the cushions, then dream of a world where men and women are magnanimous and magnificent, a world where the transcendent hour of love is followed by a lifetime of golden bliss.

The spell will last so long as you are content to skip the philosophy. Philosophy in fairy tales is a fatal blunder. "It is wrong for women to think," says the love-passionate girl Houlmé Hanoum, whose grandfather she says "is of the new school, and does not believe in forcing marriage upon women." "Grandfather" is venerable and well meaning, and Houlmé, whom he has brought up from babyhood, does not want to hurt his feelings, but "I should like him to know," she says, "that with his new ideas he has made me miserable by allowing me to acquire thoughts not in accordance with our mode of living."

All this talk of the advantage of no soul and no thought and no freedom begins to wake up critical and argumentative faculties that must remain asleep if the primeval chord of being is to be stirred by the sentence that epitomises the whole book. "My little one," says the Eastern woman to her unmarried independent sister from the West, "there is no happiness except in a prison where the jailer is the lover and the life giver."

Very comic is the chapter "Suffragettes of the Harem." Very smart, very amusing. All the well-known anti-suffrage waxworks are there, with all the familiar stage properties. Mrs. Kenneth Brown winds them up, and the figures work quite successfully. But her purpose of presenting a contrast would have been served better had she gone to the Western world for her lay figures and put them into English or American dress—big boots, cropped hair, blue glasses, and all the rest, and equipped them with strident voices and murderous umbrellas, with the novel addition—which, to do her justice, is all her own—of the "banner of black, bearing the words, 'Down with the old ideas,' in fiery red." Centuries of Paradise behind the veil must have done very little to tame the savage breast of the primeval woman if a few years of education have turned the queens of the harem into creatures as monstrous as the fabulous occidental Suffragette. She serves a useful purpose, however, does

* "Some Pages from the Life of Turkish Women." By Demetra Vaka (Mrs. Kenneth Brown). Constable, 5s. net.

the harem (scarem) Suffragette, for she brings us down again to the "O major of this life." Away go the cushions. We fling the windows wide and let in the fresh, damp air. We are ready for a trudge over the windy common. And the song in our soul is the song not of the East, but of the West.

"Then welcome each rebuff

That turns earth's sweetness rough,

Each sting that bids nor sit, nor stand, but go!

Be our joys three-parts pain!

Strive, and hold cheap the strain;

Learn, nor account the pang; dare, never grudge the
three!"

E. P. L.

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The latest publications of the Woman's Press are two leaflets on the present Militant Methods of the Union. They are entitled—

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THE WORLD WE LIVE IN.

The Game that wasn't Cricket.

By EVELYN SHARP.

Down the alley where I happen to live, playtime draws a sharp line between the sexes. It is not so noticeable during working hours, when girls and boys, banded together by the common grievance of compulsory education, trot off to school almost as allies, even hand in hand in those cases where protection is sought from the little girl by the little boy who raced her into the world and lost—or won—by half a length. But when school is over sex antagonism, largely fostered by the parent, immediately sets in. Knowing the size of the average back yard in my neighbourhood, I have plenty of sympathy for the mother who wishes to keep it clear of children. But I always want to know why, in order to secure this privacy, she gives the boy a piece of bread-and-dripping and a ball, while the girl is given a piece of bread-and-dripping and a baby. And I have not yet decided which of the two toys is the more destructive of my peace.

Every evening during the summer, cricket is played just below my window in the hour preceding sunset. Cricket, as played in my alley, is less noisy than football, in which anything that comes handy as a substitute for the ball may be used, preferably an old, jagged salmon tin. But cricket lasts longer, the nerves of the parents whose windows overlook the cricket ground being able to stand it better. As the best working hour of my day is destroyed equally by both, I have no feeling either way, except that the cricket, as showing a more masterly evasion of difficulties, appeals to me rather more. It is comparatively easy to achieve some resemblance to a game of football even in a narrow strip of pavement bordered by houses, with one goal in the porch of the model dwellings at the blind end of the alley and the other goal among the motor traffic at the street end. But first-class cricket is more difficult of attainment with a field so crowded as to make it hard to decide which player out of three or four has caught you out, while your only chance of not being run out first ball is to take the wicket with you—always a possibility when the wicket is somebody's coat that has a way of getting mixed up with the batsman's feet.

In spite of obstacles, however, the cricket goes on every evening before sunset; and all the while, the little girl who tripped to school on such a gay basis of equality with her brother only a few hours back sits on the doorstep minding the baby. I do not say that she actively objects to this; I only know with acute certainty that the baby objects to it, and I have felt for a long time that it would be at least interesting to see what would happen if the little girl were to stand up at the wicket for a change while her brother dealt with the baby.

And the other evening this did happen. A mother, making one of those sorties from the domestic stronghold that in my alley always have the effect of bringing a look of guilt to the faces of the most innocent, shouted something I did not hear, picked up the wicket, cuffed somebody's head with it and made him put it on, gave the baby to a brother, and sent his sister off to the oilshop with a jar in one hand and a penny tightly clasped in the other. The interruption over, the scattered field re-formed automatically, somebody else's jacket was made into a mound, and cricket was resumed with the loss of a player, who, by the way, showed an astonishing talent for minding the baby.

Then the little girl came back from the oilshop. I know not what spirit of revolt entered suddenly her small, subdued soul; perhaps, the sight of a boy minding the baby suggested an upheaval of the universe that demanded her instant co-operation; perhaps, she had no distinct idea in her mind beyond a wish to rebel. Whatever her reasons, there she stood, bat in hand, waiting for the ball, while the baby crowded delightedly in the unusual embrace of a boy who by all the laws of custom was unsexing himself.

Another instant and the air was rent with sound and fury. In front of the wicket stood the Spirit of Revolt, with tumbled hair and defiant eyes, breathless with much running, intoxicated with success; around her, an outraged cricket team, strong in the conventions of a lifetime, protesting fiercely. What had happened was quite simple. Grasping in an instant of time the only possible way of evading the crowd of fielders in the narrow space, the little impromptu batswoman had done the obvious thing, and struck the ball against the wall high over their heads, whence it bounded into the open street and got lost in the traffic. Then she ran till she could run no more. Why wasn't it fair? she wanted to know.

"Cause it ain't—there!" was one illuminating reply.

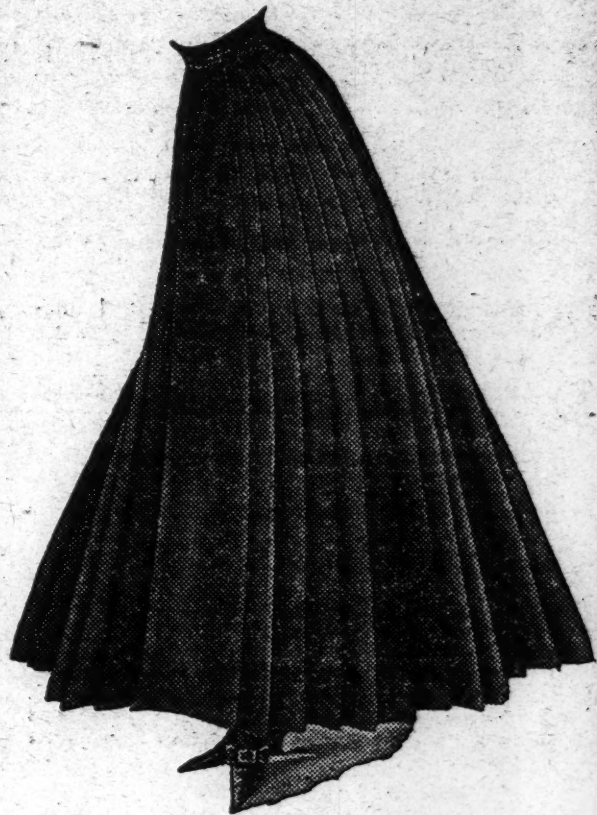
"Cause we don't never play that way," was another, upon which she was quick to pounce.

"You never thought of it, that's why!" she retorted shrewdly.

She was desperately outnumbered. It was magnificent, but it wasn't cricket; moreover, her place was the doorstep, as she was speedily reminded when the door reopened and avenging motherhood once more swooped down upon the scene. A shake here, a push there—and the boy was back again at the wicket, while a weeping baby lay unheeded on the lap of a weeping Spirit of Revolt.

And the queer thing is that the innovation made by the small batswoman in her one instant of wild rebellion has now been adopted by the team that plays cricket down my alley every evening before sunset.

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The Women's Social and Political Union are NOT asking for a vote for every woman, but simply that sex shall cease to be a disqualification for the franchise.

At present men who pay rates and taxes, who are owners, occupiers, lodgers, or have the service or university franchise, possess the Parliamentary vote. The Women's Social and Political Union claim that women who fulfil the same conditions shall also enjoy the franchise.

It is estimated that when this claim has been conceded, about a million and a quarter women will possess the vote, in addition to the seven and a half million men who are at present enfranchised.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed immediately.

VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1st, 1909.

DEAR FRIENDS,—To-day there is urgent need that our statement of the facts and our interpretation of them shall be placed before every woman and every man throughout the country. The ordinary daily and weekly Press will not do this for us. There is only one way in which it can be done, and that is by means of this paper, **VOTES FOR WOMEN**.

To-day we have our paper produced for the first time in an enlarged form with wider possibilities for usefulness. While our dear comrades are in Birmingham Gaol undergoing their fiery ordeal on behalf of our common womanhood, it must be a point of honour to turn their sacrifice to the best account. As an act of loyalty to those in prison, as a sign of devotion to them, I ask every member and every friend of our Union to press forward with a renewed effort so that the circulation of our paper may be doubled and even trebled during their imprisonment.

Emmeline Pankhurst.

THE FIERY CROSS.

To-day throughout the country every heart that loves justice is burning with indignation at the latest act of the Government against women.

Because we will not give in or abandon our determination to wring from them the emancipation of womanhood they are inflicting upon the bodies of our dear comrades in prison a cruel and inhuman violence. They hope in this way—and hope in vain—to crush the women's revolution.

Last week I was appealed to by the Liberal Press to call a halt to our agitation and to pass a censure on such scenes as were witnessed outside Bingley Hall.

I should be cowardly indeed were I to listen to this appeal. Were I to attempt to restrain the members of the Women's Social and Political Union from such legitimate protest I should be false to the sacred trust which has been committed to me. But above and beyond that, my attempt would not succeed. The women who are in this movement know too well the folly, the weakness, the wickedness of turning back. Step by step they have been driven by the repressive measures of the Government to more and more vigorous protest. Forbidden access by deputation, excluded from public meetings, punished over and over again as common criminals for merely demanding an interview with the Prime Minister, they have gone steadily forward, never taking a single step that was not absolutely forced upon them. It is too late to-day to appeal to them to turn back.

The only appeal that can possibly succeed is to the Government; they have it in their power to stop this agitation at once by one simple act of justice; for by the concession to women of their proper citizen rights—and by that alone—can the present terrible situation be brought to an end.

But the Government are trying a different course. They have resorted to torture. Even as I write these words the outrage of forcible feeding is being inflicted upon those brave women in the Birmingham prison who have refused food as a protest against injustice and tyranny. The hunger strike as a last protest against the misuse of power has hitherto been known only in Russian prisons, but under a Liberal Government in Free England women have been driven to use this terrible weapon against their oppressors. To break their spirit a Liberal Home Secretary has gone further than ever Russian officials have dared to go. By his orders women have been overpowered by numbers, held down while a tube has been inserted into their struggling bodies, and forcibly fed. In this way the Government seek to end the hunger strike and repress the agitation.

Once more they will fail, as such miserable acts of cruelty and repression have invariably failed in the past. Just as it is in the hottest furnace that the steel is most finely tempered, so it is in this hour of fiercest trial that the great spirit in women is being called forth. Since the news of this abominable action of the Government has been made public, and because of it, I have received letters from women asking to be allowed to take their share in the fight, demanding that they shall be given a place where the struggle is keenest, the danger greatest, the suffering most severe.

And so it has always been. Every fresh denial of justice, every successive act of repression, brings new recruits to the corps for active service. And what of the ninety women now awaiting trial for their part in the deputation of June 29? Do the Government imagine that by their new methods they are going to strike terror into our hearts? They may be able to feed by force a few helpless women in Birmingham Gaol, but if the legal case goes against us and we are all sent to Holloway, do they imagine that they will be able to overpower us so easily?

The hearts of women right through this Union, and even of those still outside our ranks, are stirred to their depths. This fire of suffering whose flame is upon our sisters in prison is burning us also. For we suffer with them, we partake of their affliction, and we shall share their victory bye-and-bye. This fire will breathe into the ear of many a sleeper the one word "Awake," and she will arise to slumber no more. It will descend with the gift of tongues upon many who have been hitherto dumb, and they will go forth to preach the news of deliverance. Its light will be seen afar off by many who suffer and are sorrowful and oppressed, and it will irradiate their lives with a new hope, a new certainty of victory.

For this spirit which the Government in their blindness have called forth against themselves is nobler and grander than anything which they can understand. Were it possible for them to inflict still greater tortures upon our women, even to the taking of life itself, it would still be triumphant over them. For the spirit which is in woman to-day cannot be quenched; it is stronger than all earthly potentates and powers; it is stronger than all tyranny, cruelty, and oppression; it is stronger even than death itself.

Emmeline Pankhurst.

WHY WE FIGHT.

Women are often told that politics are too base, too sordid for their touch. Yet the politics of to-day are the history of to-morrow; politics are history in the making.

From time to time the sordidness of politics is redeemed by some magnificent idea, for which men are found ready to cast aside self-interest and throw self-regard to the winds. History is lifted to the level of great drama by records of a tremendous triumph of the human spirit and the human will, braced by heroic conceptions of freedom, right and duty, pitted against all the forces of material domination.

We have only to recall the rally of the French nation led by Joan of Arc, who taught her people to realise that fear was the basest of all base passions, more potent to enslave than the armies of the foreign foe.

We need only think of Garibaldi, who made Italy a nation and a kingdom by the might of his arm and the valour of his illustrious "Thousand," and threw off the bitter yoke of alien rule. Or of the peasant deliverer of the Tyrol, whose story was told in the pages of this paper a fortnight ago. These illustrations are but typical of those heroic periods in the life of the human race when a great and passionate conception of liberty has led to the beating down of the strongholds of tyranny and the release of the imprisoned and captive spirit of a race.

We see these scenes of conflict now in the perspective which time affords. But there was a time when the personalities which stand exalted above mortality were lost in the hurly-burly of the politics of those far-off days. There was a time when in men's minds these very names were linked with opprobrium. There was a time when the principalities of the Church and the powers of State, supported by the clamour of the deceived public, burnt Joan of Arc at the stake, as a very limb of the devil. There was a time when proud Britain dared not harbour Garibaldi as its guest. The day came when Andreas Hofer was shot as a rebel, without protest from the Emperor he adored and gave his life to serve. The nature and significance of those heroic struggles were unguessed at the time, save by a powerless few, who shared the faith and mourned the tragic fate of these defenders of their race.

History repeats itself. And here in the twentieth century those who would free their sex from age-long subjection find themselves engaged in what is a very war for freedom—a war which grows more serious every day, of which no one can foresee the course, and only those who possess the vision of faith can see the end.

We shall be told that we are comparing small things with great, that we have lost all sense of proportion in the obsession of a fixed idea. But that is what these others were told in their time, what all have been told who have set forth to break the fetters that bind humanity, of which the majority of men and women, dupes of custom or of fear, are but vaguely and impotently conscious. It is true that the conflict is not war in the literal sense of the word, nor is it conceivable that it ever can be, but the principles of the conflict are precisely the same, though the weapons are different. It is a war against a Government that would deny to woman the freedom of the constitution, to which as human beings they are entitled.

"But, those of whom you speak were fighting for a very definite thing—freedom, nationality, the flinging off of an alien yoke. It cannot be maintained that women are fighting for anything as fundamental, as vital, as that."

Women are fighting for something infinitely more fundamental, infinitely more vital even than that form of freedom that is comprehended in the word nationality. They are fighting for the very right to possess their own body and soul, they are fighting for the elemental right to be human beings, living members of the body politic, citizens of a self-governing State, instead of cattle, adjuncts to, but not partakers of the body politic.

That is the meaning of our struggle. Men have fought that they may be called citizens of one State rather than of another; they have fought against tyranny of priestcraft, against restriction of liberty of conscience. But we are fighting to obtain the elemental right to be existent at all in a State that now is inclusive only of men. We are fighting against the suffocating power of a worse than priestcraft tyranny—that power that in some countries still openly avows that woman has no soul, and in every country forbids it to develop.

"He for God only, she for God in him." So wrote in unforgotten words the champion of religious liberty and the challenger of priestly rule, England's great

poet reformer, Milton. Yet no priest in the darkest days of religious decadence ever arrogated to himself so monstrous and impious a claim as this. The wickedness of this utterance has never stirred the Non-conformist conscience or brought forth any protest from the official representatives of the Protestant religion. For ages long the tortured soul of woman has stifled its moan and borne the bitter yoke of bondage of government by male right. Our masters have put the bit in our mouths, they have harnessed us and driven us whither they would. They have dealt with us as a man deals with the thing he has purchased for his use. But no more! Not if we die for it!

This Government is breaking the bodies of women in prison because it will not break the bondage which holds us in subjection. It is determined to keep women as the cattle of the State—the State that acknowledges no citizens but men. Our masters hold the lash; they can do the mortal body to death as it stands shuddering between the shafts. But they will never have our submission again. They may break the body, but the soul that smothered its moan throughout the patient ages is laughing and exulting now—laughing in sheer joy of triumph, for it knows that it will inevitably break their domination. We have but one body doomed to the inevitable mortal fate of dissolution. Death will come some time sure and certain. We have but one soul, and that, whether our masters like it or not, is never again for their yoke. There are hundreds of women in this Union who are ready to lay down their lives, if that is the price exacted; not one who would not deem her fate a fortunate one if by her death she could purchase for the women to come after her the right to that elementary foothold in civilisation comprehended in the phrase, "Homo Sum," which can only be rendered into our mother tongue by the words, "I, too, possess a human mind and soul."

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Next Monday afternoon the first open meeting, or At Home, as it is called, after the summer holidays will be held at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, from 3 to 5 p.m. The speakers will be Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Miss Rona Robinson, one of the women upon whom a summons has been served for damage to prison property in connection with the recent imprisonments at Liverpool. Similar At Homes are held at the Queen's Hall every Monday afternoon, and every Thursday evening at St. James's Hall, but next Thursday there will be no At Home in the St. James's Hall, as on that evening the great Albert Hall meeting takes place. At Homes of a similar character to those in London are also held regularly in various centres throughout the country. Particulars will be found on page 12 ("The Campaign Throughout the Country"), as well as in the Programme of Events (page 11).

Indignation Meetings Throughout the Country.

The great meeting already announced to take place at the Royal Albert Hall next Thursday evening at 8 p.m. will take the form of an indignation meeting to protest against the vindictive action of the Government in causing the compulsory feeding of the women Suffragists imprisoned at Birmingham. Particulars will be found on p. 2.

At a number of other meetings which have been arranged to take place throughout the country, owing to the action of the Government with regard to the women at Birmingham the same note of indignation will prevail. Among these are a Welcome to the Lancashire Hunger-strikers at the White City, Manchester, to-morrow, when the speakers will be Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Gladice Keevil, and some of the Hunger-strikers.

Another important meeting is that in the Sun Hall, Liverpool, on the evening of Monday, October 11, when Mrs. Pankhurst will speak, and some of the Liverpool Hunger-strikers and prisoners on remand will be present on the platform. Tickets, price 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., can be obtained at the new W.S.P.U. shop, 23, Berry Street, Liverpool. The names of those wishing to act as stewards should be sent in immediately to Miss Flatman at the same address.

Other important meetings will be held at Blackheath, Launceston, Truro, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and at Whitefield's Tabernacle, Tottenham Court Road, London. Full particulars will be found in the Programme of Events.

Release of Miss Ainsworth.

Miss Ainsworth, who was sentenced at Birmingham to two weeks' imprisonment, will, if she serves her full time, be released on Tuesday, October 5. Arrangements are being made to hold a meeting in Birmingham the same evening, at which Mrs. Pankhurst will speak.

Protest at Newcastle.

In consequence of the visit of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Newcastle on Saturday, October 9th, a counter demonstration of protest will be made by members of the Women's Social and Political Union on the same day. On the day previous Miss Christabel Pankhurst will address a meeting in the St. George's Hall, at 8.

The Scottish Demonstration.

The great Scottish Demonstration, for which preparations have been made for many weeks past, will take place on Saturday, October 9. Further particulars will be found on page 3.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

September 22-29. More than £600.

There is only one thought in our hearts now. It is the thought of the women whose bodies are being violated in prison. The Government, having cut off from women every constitutional right, and repressed with cruel violence every form of protest, have driven women to the last extremity of passive resistance. Women are prepared to die rather than acquiesce, even by the simple action of voluntarily taking food, in the iniquities of the political and legal system imposed upon them.

There is no justice for women. And there is no ruth. And in order to batter down their resistance women have been grossly outraged in their person by the gag and the stomach pump.

There is nothing so certain in the whole world as that the women in this Union will go through humiliation, agony, and death without flinching. There is nothing so certain as the fact that women will never give in after this.

When the unspeakable treasure of flesh and blood is being poured out as a price for that which is ours by every human right, silver and gold are dust and ashes in comparison.

But we are going to carry on this fight as never before. And money is needed to carry it on. Seven new organisers have been appointed. We are going to fight in the law courts this case of forcible feeding. There is a contribution this week of £400, completing a gift of £500 to the Legal Defence Fund. Now has come the time when there will be no holding back of self or of substance. We have to give ourselves, if need be, as Marie Leigh, Charlotte Marsh, and their eight comrades, as women by the hundred in this Union have given themselves, body and soul. We are welded together now, we the members of this Union, like iron at white heat.

They little know, these puny men in power, the spirit which they have evoked. It is for the women now to teach them. And they will. E. P. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £50,000 FUND.

September 22 to September 23.

£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged 47,213 10 6	Par Miss Gawthorpe—
A Member	Miss Beatrice Har-
Mrs. Constance Walsh	den
Miss M. B. Gresswell	Per Miss G. Jefferey
Miss Ethel Birrell	Mrs. Mitchell
(sale of small silver	Mrs. Fraeguard (per)
articles)	Per Miss Phillips
Miss Violet Buntin	Miss Mary Duncan
Mrs. and Miss Whitaker	For By-Election Fund
Miss K. Lockyer	Miss Edith M. Davies
Miss M. Sossman	Mrs. Ledy
Mrs. C. Whipp	Miss M. Lawrence
Mrs. M. S. Sanderson	For Drum and Fife Band—
Miss Mabel C. Hunt	Miss M. Kirby (col-
Mrs. J. Baillie Guthrie	lected)
Miss K. Willison	Miss Tingle
Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	For Legal Defence Fund—
(for upkeep of motor)	Mrs. Ernest Ledy
Miss Margot Murray	For Organiser Fund—
Mrs. Anna W. Mills	Miss J. Charnwell
Mrs. C. Whipp	Miss Constance (per
Miss Coral Archer	Mrs. McKewen for
J. C. Chase-Brooks, Esq.	Brighton Organiser
Mrs. Biddle	Fund)
Anon. (sale of chain	Miss A. B. Dines
bracelets)	For Prisoners Fund—
Miss Margaret Forbes	Mrs. Wood
(sale of brooch)	F. S. B.
Mrs. A. C. Inglis	Mrs. Elizabeth
Extra paid for Votes	Edwards
for Women	Rev. H. B. Chapman
Per Mrs. Mansell	Mrs. Julius Singer
Per Mrs. V. Jones	Mrs. Julius Singer, Esq.
Mrs. Allan Newman	Mrs. F. Bousfield
Miss E. K. Grainger	For Scottish Campaign Fund—
Mrs. F. Sossfield (trans-	Mrs. Oargill Knott
ferred subscription)	Miss J. Allan
Miss G. A. Richard	Mrs. Anderson (col-
Miss M. Cleverly Paine	lected)
and Miss Florence	Miss M. Robinson
Paine	(collected)
Miss M. W. Andrews	Miss E. New (col-
Mrs. W. Green (Til-	lected)
hurst) (transferred	A Working Woman
subscription)	(Edinburgh)
Miss Hilda M. Dallas	Miss E. Cotton Haig
Miss Mary Hawdon	Mrs. Dobble
Miss Enid Gilt	Mrs. Forsyth
Mrs. Bertha Thompson	Mrs. Barwell
Miss Hawkins	The Misses Thomson
"An admirer of Mrs.	Mrs. Grant
Leigh"	Mrs. Walker
Mrs. Miles	"Sympathiser"
Miss E. F. Staley	(Edinburgh)
J. R. W. Tanner, Esq.	Anonymous dona-
Miss C. Lillian Shep-	tions
pard	Miss Nellie Smith
Miss Juliette Heale	Miss Adela Pank-
Mrs. F.	hurst
Miss Alice Cobbett	Miss Robertson
Mrs. H. Constance	Miss Duncan
James	Miss A. Bell
Mrs. Graham	Miss N. W. Hunter
"Telegraphist"	Miss Margaret
E. H.	Burton
Nov. 6 2d. and 3d.	Miss Maudie Zeala
Miss Audrey Chagman	Collections (Scottish
"A German Suffragist"	Campaign)
Miss E. R. Kerr	Membership, Entrance
Dr. K. Schirmacher	Fees
Mrs. E. Read	Collections, etc.
Misses E. and H. Purdy	Exhibitions (all tak-
Mrs. E. F.	ings additional)
Miss H. M. Middleton	
G. H. Turfrow, Esq.	
Miss M. Walker	
Miss Mary Aves	
Miss Edith Macdermud	
M. S. B.	
Miss Susan B. Duxfield	
Miss Muriel L. Moore	
Miss Edith E. Ure	
Per Miss Gawthorpe	
Mrs. Almond	

247,363 18 1

Notes.—The item in letter of July 10th, Miss Barn Murdoch £5 9s. 2d. should read—From sale of literature, Glasgow Place, Edinburgh, £5 9s. 2d. The item in last week's issue, Mrs. Wallace £1 (Scottish Campaign Fund) should read—Miss Sophia Wallace.

THE WOMAN'S PRESS.

The article "Is it right? Is it wrong?" by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, which appeared as the leader in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, is being issued as a leaflet, price 9d. per hundred, 6s. per thousand, post free. The article by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, "Militant Tactics to Date" is also ready in leaflet form at the same price. The Woman's Press has three complete sets of "Exhibition China" on hand, as well as odd pieces. Particulars can be had from Mrs. Knight, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

PROTESTS AT CABINET MINISTERS' MEETINGS.

On several occasions during the last few days Cabinet Ministers have been questioned on the subject of Votes for Women.

At Cinderford on Friday Mr. Herbert Gladstone, although encompassed about with innumerable precautions, was obliged to hear the accusing voice of Miss Pitman, who met his motor-car at Bristol. During his visit much good work was done both in Bristol and Cinderford in bringing the movement to the notice of the public.

At Hampton Court on Saturday, on the occasion of a luncheon to the members of the International Press Conference, a male sympathiser met Mr. Lewis Harcourt as he was leaving the marquee, and approached him, saying, "Will you buy a copy of our paper?" Mr. Harcourt appeared to be interested, but when the words "Votes for Women" were added, he turned and fled. The man was immediately pounced upon by three keepers and hustled out, but not before he had time again to shout "Votes for Women," in the hearing of the crowd which had been attracted.

On Monday morning Miss Jessie Kenney, finding herself in the same tramcar with Mr. John Burns, attempted to discuss with him the treatment of the Hunger-Strikers at Birmingham. Mr. Burns dodged from side to side of the tram, followed by Miss Kenney, and finally, in desperation, after using some strong language, he jumped off the foot-board. No one attempted to interfere, but the conductor warned Miss Kenney not to follow Mr. Burns, as the car was going at a dangerous speed, "for," said he, "he isn't worth it."

A magnificent protest meeting was held at Peterborough on Monday outside a hall in which Mr. Sydney Buxton was speaking. To this hall only twelve women, well-known to the Liberal party, were admitted. At an overflow meeting the words "Votes for Women" were written on the pillars by someone in the audience. The meeting addressed by the women was perfectly orderly, and the sympathy of the audience was abundantly evident.

MR. MASTERMAN QUESTIONED

As he has acted as the mouthpiece of the Government in regard to the forcible feeding of the Suffragist prisoners at Birmingham, Mr. Masterman was severely questioned by both men and women at a meeting in Fulham Town Hall on Tuesday night. After some platitudes by the chairman, Mr. Timothy Davies, with regard to Mr. Masterman's prospects of entering the Cabinet, and Mr. Masterman's own boast that so far he had been free from Suffragette attacks, a woman rose in the audience and said pointedly, "What about feeding by force in Birmingham Gaol? Is this the price you are paying for a place in the next Liberal Cabinet?" She was hustled from the hall, and was only saved from the brutality of the stewards by men in the audience. After another woman had been thrown out, a man rose and called for "Three cheers for Keir Hardie," while another shouted, "He at least has stood by the women," and the words "Stomach pump" in stentorian tones rang through the hall. There was a series of protests from the balcony and floor of the hall, and a well-known South London Liberal in the second row asked to be allowed to put a question. After some disorder Mr. Masterman asked, "Is the question about the medical treatment of the prisoners at Birmingham?" In response there were loud cries of "Yes, yes. Answer, answer," from the back of the hall.

The question, sent up in writing, was as follows:—

"Since women have to pay their share of the taxes under the Budget, will the Government give them the vote and thus remove the cruel treatment meted out to the Suffragettes in prison by Mr. Herbert Gladstone?"

Mr. Masterman replied that both he and Mr. Gladstone had spoken in favour of Votes for Women, and that with regard to the "medical treatment" of the women something had to be done to prevent the women from committing suicide by starvation.

Mr. Masterman was subjected to further cross-examination outside the hall and on the way to Walham Green Station.

MR. JOHN BURNS FRIGHTENED.

We understand that whereas Mr. John Burns had been expected to speak at a Free Trade demonstration in Battersea Town Hall on Friday, September 17, the President of the Local Government Board was "frightened away by militant women." The words are those of the *South-Western Star* of September 24. "The Suffragettes," it says "arrived in good time and in an orderly manner. Their tickets were in proper form, and they

were admitted without question, though with some misgivings. They sat sternly mute and undemonstrative. Later, when there were cries of "Where's Burns?" the militant Suffragettes dropped their tating and stared an insolently derisive stare, which was most provoking. . . . Rightly or wrongly, the main body of the audience believed that the presence of a few Socialists and fewer militant women had terrified the President of the Local Government Board, and had frightened him from his own Town Hall."

Dangerous Women.

When the Czar of Russia recently visited England—or rather an island off the English coast—people read, with feelings commingled of contempt, pity, and amusement, about the preparations made to secure the potentate's safety. He was guarded and watched so closely that a sparrow or a spider would have found it impossible to approach him unobserved. During the better part of the past year Ministers of the British Crown have addressed public meetings under the circumstances of the Czar's daily life. Wherever any member of the Government sought to address his own constituents, or any other person's constituents, "elaborate precautions" were taken to secure the speaker's safety from the hands and voices of the Suffragettes; and these precautions were often ineffectual. "Free speech" has become a mockery in Great Britain. The unhappy Liberals can talk about politics only within doors closed, barred, and guarded: even then they are "interrupted" by missiles deftly flung through windows or glass roofs. . . . Some people in England say the Suffragettes have postponed the enfranchisement of women for a generation; but England is, politically, a very peculiar country, and, perhaps, the slate-heaving and axe-wielding ladies know their own fellow-countrymen better than we do at this peaceful and modest side of the Irish Sea. . . . Very shrewd and capable women lead the fierce Suffragette battalions in England.

—Irish News.



By permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."]
If Cabinet Ministers must have six policemen in attendance when they play golf on Saturday afternoons, then each policeman might surely carry a club. This would serve a double purpose:—(1) Caddies could be dispensed with; (2) The clubs would serve as weapons of offence and defence in case of a Suffragette Raid.

POST BOX.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I would like to tell you how delighted I am with my Suffrage bicycle. Decorated very delicately in the W.S.P.U. colours, it is really the most beautiful bicycle I have ever seen. It is not at all aggressively Suffragist, as it is very sober in appearance, but it is an easy way of doing a little gentle propaganda when marketing, etc. What I like best is that it is a direct contribution of £10 to the W.S.P.U. through the kindness of the giver of the bicycles. I would like her to be told how much I like it, and that my husband has bought an Elswick since.—Yours, etc.,

KATHERINE VULLIAMY.

Maitland House, Newnham, Cambridge.

Mr. R. H. Pott writes that the leading newsagent in Woking has voluntarily offered to display fourteen posters for twenty-four hours this week, practically devoting every board outside his shop for this purpose. He suggests that other readers should obtain similar promises.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The above League extends a cordial invitation to members of the W.S.P.U. to be present in the Grand Hall of the Criterion at 3 o'clock to-day (Friday), when the President of the League (Mrs. Kendal) and the vice-presidents are At Home. The chair will be taken by Miss Fanny Brough, and the speakers will be Miss Margaret Halstan, Miss Christopher St. John, Miss Ogston, Mrs. Arnold-Sennett, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, and Mr. Granville Barker.

Mme. Garrud will give a demonstration in the Japanese art of self-defence, i.e., Ju-Jutsu, at her school, 31, Golden Square, Piccadilly, on Saturday, October 9, at 3.30 p.m. The demonstration is for ladies only, and tickets will be supplied free on application. Those who witnessed Mme. Garrud's shows in Ju-Jutsu at the Prince's Skating Rink during the W.S.P.U. Exhibition will be specially interested in this event.

NEVER MIND!

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will pick it up

This common expression is amply justified by the all-round utility of the BISSELL SWEEPER. No matter what the nature of the litter is a BISSELL "CYCO" BALL-BEARING CARPET SWEEPER will do the work thoroughly, and with an ease that is little short of marvellous. It raises no dust, runs quietly, and means a saving of carpets and draperies.

A BISSELL costs less than forty brooms, and lasts longer. They are sold by all dealers at prices from 10s. 6d. upwards.

Insist on a Genuine BISSELL.

WAVELINE, produces wavy, curly, abundant beautiful hair, 1/6.
HONOLINE SOAP, produces a lovely complexion, 6d.
LIQUID CREAM, instantaneous, creamy-white, skin beautifier, 1/6.
EACH TRIAL, 7d.
Proprietress (Member W.S.P.U.).
Dept. P1, Norfolk Road, Streatham.

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Gas and Electric Light Accounts, Dividend Warrants, etc.
Filling in Insurance Notices, Pay Roll Sheets and Dividend Sheets.**

Each address is on a separate "cut out" stencil, easily readable and enclosed in a fibre or metal frame. It is made of specially prepared rope paper, and is capable of receiving thousands of impressions, and will last for years.

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of
500 Names.**

**Used on Lists
of
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Names.**

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The addresses are kept in drawers, as in a Card Index, and may be arranged alphabetically, geographically, or numerically, and colours used to indicate different classifications.

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on a
Floor Space
34 inches
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October Friday, 1	Birmingham, Barton Arms, Aston Edinburgh, Drawing Room Meeting, 22, George Square Edinburgh, Leopold Place Edinburgh, The Mound Edinburgh, Stockbridge Leith Liverpool, Crawford's Factory, Burns Road Liverpool, Islington Square London— Brickton, White Horse, Angel Road Criterion Rooms, W., Actresses' Franchise League Hammermith, The Grove Hither Green, Debate, Torrion Rd. Lewisham, Market Place Shepherd's Bush, Bamboro' Gdns. Manchester, White City Campaign, At Home, Onward Bldgs., Deansgate Portobello Glasgow, Charing Cross Hall	Miss G. M. Hazel Miss Macaulay, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield Miss Naylor, Miss E. Haig Miss Joachim, Miss Liddle Miss C. Haig, Miss Fairfield Miss Fraser Smith, Miss Kelley, Miss Davis Miss Flatman Miss Flatman Miss Bonwick, Mrs. Tanner Miss Ogston Miss Jacobs, Mrs. Butler Mrs. Bouvier Miss N. U. Smith Miss O. M. A. Coombs, Miss C. Mackay Miss Mary Gawthorpe Miss Chapman, Miss Roberts Miss Ann Macbeth, Miss Swanson, Miss Adela Pankhurst, Miss Con- lan, Chair: Dr. Katharine Chapman Miss Flatman Miss Flatman Miss D. Coombs and others Miss Jackson, Mrs. Tanner Mrs. Cowen Miss East, Miss Jarvis Mrs. Nourse Miss Eliza Myers, Miss Ellen Pitfield Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gaw- thorpe, Miss Gladice Keevil, and Hunger Strikers Miss Gladice Keevil Miss Macaulay Miss Coombs Miss M. Brackenbury, Mrs. Tanner Miss M. Coombs and others Mrs. Mansel Mrs. Bouvier Miss Kelley, Miss Fairfield Miss Fraser Smith, Miss Liddle Miss Chapman, Miss O. W. Haig Miss Macaulay, Miss Roberts Miss Naylor, Miss E. Haig Miss Flatman Miss Flatman Miss Ankerbach, Mrs. Jarvis Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Rosa Robinson Mrs. Nourse, Miss Pitfield Miss East, Miss Mackay Miss Joachim, Miss McPhunn Mrs. Pankhurst, Lady Constance Lytton, Miss Gladice Keevil Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Miss Joachim Miss Kelley, Miss Fairfield Miss Macaulay, Miss Fraser Smith Miss E. Haig Miss Naylor, Miss Liddle Miss Chapman, Miss C. W. Haig Miss Flatman Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Flatman Miss Barrett and others Mrs. Cullen, Miss West Mrs. Mansel, Miss Kathleen Jarvis Miss Naylor, Miss McPhunn Miss Macaulay, Miss Liddle Miss Chapman, Miss Haig Miss Fraser Smith, Miss E. Haig Miss Joachim, Miss Fairfield Miss Flatman Miss Flatman Miss Ogston. Chair: Rev. Cartmel Robinson Miss Mary Neal and others Miss Ankerbach, Miss West Miss Ellen Pitfield, Miss Roe Mrs. Nourse, Miss Jarvis Members' Meeting Miss Kelley, Miss Roberts Miss Kelley, Miss Roberts Lady Constance Lytton, Miss Gladice Keevil Hon. Mrs. Haverfield Liverpool Members Miss Flatman Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Chair: Mrs. Pethick Lawrence Miss Mary Phillips Miss Naylor, Miss McPhunn Miss Kelley, Miss Roberts Miss Chapman, Miss Fairfield Miss Macaulay, Miss M. Kemp Miss Joachim, Miss Haig Miss Fraser Smith, Miss C. W. Haig Miss Flatman Miss Mary Gawthorpe Miss Christabel Pankhurst Miss Helen Ogston, Miss Crocker, Dr. Fairfield	7 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 1.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
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October 11	Liverpool, Sun Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst. Chair: Miss Ada Flatman	8 p.m.
October 13	Blackheath Concert Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton. Chair: The Ven. C. E. Boreet, M.A., Archdeacon of Lewisham	8 p.m.
October 19	Chigwell, Roll's Park	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	—
October 21	Launceston, Town Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Annie Kenney	8 p.m.
October 22	Truro, Public Rooms	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Annie Kenney	1.30 p.m.
October 27	London— Whitefield's Tabernacle, Tottenham Court Road	Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Chair: Mr. Silvester Hogg (for Members of the Mutual Improvement Society only)	—
October 28	Glasgow	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	—
October 30	Edinburgh, King's Theatre	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	—
October 31	London— Hotel Cecil, Playgoers' Club	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	—

THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

London.—Mrs. Flora Drummond, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

West of England.—Miss Annie Kenney, 37, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton, Bristol.
Exeter.—Miss Vera Wentworth, 3, Richmond Road.
Torquay.—Miss Elsie Howey, 32, Victoria Parade.
Cornwall.—Miss Mary Phillips, 9, The Parade, Truro.
Cardiff.—Miss Elsie Mackenzie, 191, Richmond Road, Roath.
Newport.—Miss Gabrielle Jeffrey, "Votes for Women" Shop (near the bridge).

Lancashire & North Wales.—Miss Mary Gawthorpe, 164, Oxford Road, Manchester.
Liverpool.—Miss S. Ada Flatman, 23, Berry Street.
Preston.—41, Glover's Court.
Rochdale.—84, Yorkshire Street.

Midlands.—Miss Gladice K. Keovil, 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham.
Nottingham.—Miss N. Crocker, 6, Carlton Street.

Yorkshire.—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 68, Manningham Lane, Bradford.
Middlesbrough.—Miss D. Pethick, 3, Holgate Terrace.

Newcastle.—Miss Annie Williams, 19, Nixon Street, Laing Place.

Glasgow & West of Scotland.—Miss G. Conlan, 141, Bath Street.
Miss Margaret Cameron, 148, Sanchiehall Street.

Edinburgh.—Miss Florence E. M. Macaulay, 8, Melville Place, Queensferry Street.
Mrs. Drummond, 63, Princes Street.

The vindictive action of the Government in causing the compulsory feeding of the women imprisoned in Birmingham as a result of the protest at Mr. Asquith's meeting has given fresh impetus to propaganda work throughout the whole of the country. A number of important meetings arranged to take place will now take the form of Indignation meetings to protest against this action of the Government. Among those arranged for the next few days is a Welcome Demonstration to the Liverpool Hunger Strikers at the White City, Manchester, to-morrow, Saturday. On October 7 the great Albert Hall meeting will be addressed by Mrs. Pankhurst, on the eve of her departure for the United States, and on Saturday, October 9, the magnificent preparatory work carried out in Scotland during the summer will culminate in the Demonstration in the Waverley Market, Edinburgh. Another winter coming event is Mrs. Pankhurst's farewell meeting at the Sun Hall, Liverpool, on Monday, October 11. In the Midlands, Birmingham members have been cheering the Winsen Green prisoners by holding meetings, with a band as principal accessory, outside the prison walls, and in the West of England, Yorkshire, and elsewhere meetings are being held, new shops opened, and a vast amount of educational work done.

London and Home Counties.

The action of the Government alluded to above has imparted new zest to the work of the autumn campaign, and those responsible for preparing the ground for the Albert Hall meeting next Thursday evening are devoting themselves to canvassing, ticket-selling, etc., with redoubled energy.

In the four London districts in which the special Albert Hall campaign is being held, every possible means of advertising this great event is being utilised, and the organisers will be glad of every kind of help from those members who can spare any time, however short. Miss Grace Roe reports from Hammersmith that Mrs. Maund is holding a drawing-room meeting next Tuesday, October 5, at 8 p.m., at 8, Edith Road, West Kensington, at which Mrs. Mansel will speak and Miss Catherine Jarvis will give an account of her Hunger Strike. Miss Roe asks all Hammersmith members and friends to make a point of being present. The open-air meetings in this district, which are proving so successful, will be continued up to the date of the meeting. Nearly £9 worth of Albert Hall tickets have been sold in Hammersmith alone, and it is hoped that this amount may be doubled in the few days still remaining. This can be done with adequate help, and those who can spare time, however short, are asked to call at the shop, 160, Shepherd's Bush Road, Hammersmith.

Miss Corson reports that similar good work is being carried on in Kensington and Knightsbridge, while in the Paddington district "shopping meetings" are being held twice a week, and large audiences are being addressed at the Marble Arch on Mondays and Thursdays. On Monday last Miss Brackenbury spoke to a sympathetic audience on the compulsory feeding of Birmingham prisoners. A drawing-room meeting will be held at eight o'clock to-night at 14, Warwick Crescent, at which Mrs. Mansel will speak, Miss Green having kindly lent her drawing-room for the occasion. A similar meeting will take place to-morrow at 15, Halfmoon Street, by the kindness of Mrs. Cowen (see Programme of Events, p. 1). Mrs. Mansel (accompanied by Miss Brackenbury) has been helping to canvass in Paddington in her motor-car, and those members who have cars and time to spare could help very efficiently by giving a few hours to this work. Next week sandwich parades will further advertise the meeting. Many more workers are still needed for this work, and also for selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, selling tickets, and distributing bills at the Marble Arch meetings, and Miss Corson will be very glad if all who can help in any way at all will see her at 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Apart from the Albert Hall meeting, the great event of next week is the first Queen's Hall At Home after the summer holidays; this will take place on Monday afternoon from 3 to 5 p.m., and the speakers will be Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Miss Rosa Robinson, upon whom, with

other women, a summons has been served for damage to prison property in connection with the recent imprisonments at Liverpool. There will be no At Home on Thursday evening on account of the Albert Hall meeting.

Members of the Drum and Fife Band are resuming their successful marches through the streets of London, and to-morrow (October 2) will start from Clements Inn at 4.15 p.m., and will march along Kingsway, Great Queen Street, Long Acre, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, Piccadilly, St. James' Street, Pall Mall, Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, Haymarket, Cockspur Street, and the Strand. Behind the band will be carried a banner advertising the Albert Hall meeting. Will those willing to give out handbills or sell papers or tickets be on the route between 4.30 and 6 p.m.? Sellers should secure their papers (from Miss Ainsworth and Miss Ayrton) or tickets (from Miss Cooke) before the office closes at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Owing to the enlargement of VOTES FOR WOMEN and the extra work entailed, Miss Barbara Ayrton has joined forces with Miss Ainsworth, with a view to working up the circulation of the paper in its new form. One of their new plans is the establishment of permanent pitches in busy centres of London, each under the direction of a captain with a staff of sellers. Those so far arranged are at Charing Cross Post Office, Piccadilly Circus, Tottenham Court Road, Marble Arch, House of Commons, Kensington High Street, and Westbourne Grove. Extra supplies of papers will be taken to these points at intervals during the day in a special paper-cart. To-day this "cart" will take the form of an omnibus with a full complement of passengers, driven by Miss Douglas Smith.

West of England.

In Bristol various schemes are on hand for furthering the movement during the coming winter season, chief among these being a mass meeting in Colston Hall in November, and a bazaar early in the New Year, at which members, kindly coached by Miss Edith Craig, will perform some of the clever Suffrage plays that were such a feature at the Exhibition in London. Miss Jessie Smith has undertaken to give two days a week to help at Bath. Mrs. Barrett has promised to help Miss Phillips in Cornwall for a fortnight. More help is, however, greatly needed, and volunteers will be gladly welcomed at the shop, 37, Queen's Road, Clifton.

Miss Elsie McKenzie reports from Cardiff that energies are being concentrated on the At Homes. There is great need of helpers to distribute handbills, sell VOTES FOR WOMEN, and aid in other ways, and she will be glad if volunteers will kindly call at 191, Richmond Road, Roath. The Newport shop was opened on Wednesday last week, when a members' meeting was held, at which a further amount of £2 5s. was subscribed towards the expenses of propaganda work in the district. The first of the Newport weekly At Homes will be held in the Lecture Hall, Central Hall, at 3.30 on Thursday, October 14, when Dr. Garrett Anderson will take the chair, and Mrs. Mackworth and Miss Annie Kenney will be the speakers. Volunteers are greatly needed both to relieve Miss Jeffery at the shop and for paper selling and bill distributing.

Workers in Cornwall are energetically canvassing in preparation for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's approaching meetings, and contingents are expected from St. Austell, Redruth, Camborne, Falmouth, and Penzance. Tickets, 2s. (reserved and numbered), 1s., 6d., and 3d. (women only), are now on sale, and may be had from Miss Phillips at 9, The Parade, Truro, as well as from members in the towns mentioned. Offers of help with stewarding, selling of literature, etc., will be gladly received. Miss Phillips will be very glad if any friends proposing to visit Cornwall will put themselves in communication with her. She will gladly welcome additional helpers in order to make the forthcoming meetings successful, and to supply the demands for meetings received from towns as yet untouched. Particulars of a competition in connection with the sale of the beautiful miniature of Miss Christabel Pankhurst, painted by Mr. Malcolm Smith, may be had from Mrs. Howey, Tregenna House, Penzance.

Lancashire and North Wales.

The winter campaign was opened last Friday in magnificent style. Although the largest hall in the Onward Buildings had been taken for this special At Home, it was inadequate for the audience anxious to hear Miss Beatrice Harraden. Miss Gawthorpe explained the recent tactics to a very sympathetic audience, who had only to hear the stone-throwing explained in order to show their belief in the agitation and admiration for the courageous women who threw the stones. This they showed in an unmistakable way by signing the membership card of the Union. Miss Harraden's recital of "Lady Geraldine's Speech" was greatly appreciated by those present, who voiced their gratitude to her in a vote of thanks proposed by Miss Lillian Williamson and seconded by Miss Allison Toomber. In a sympathetic and telling speech Miss Harraden explained that her object in speaking on a militant platform was chiefly to accentuate the fact that scores of professional women of all classes of thought and work and culture had

thrown in their lot with the militant Suffragettes. She reminded those of her hearers, to whom the militant tactics did not appeal that in a great movement the details slip into insignificance as time goes on, and that in a few years history will deal only with the bravery and self-sacrifice of those women who shirked nothing, feared nothing, and fought on in the face of every tradition, scorn, hindrance, and injustice until they gained their citizenship and the power to insist on equal rights for men and women on the common battlefield of life.

Manchester workers are now devoting the whole of their time to the welcome to "Hunger Strikers," to be held in the White City to-morrow. Both indoor and outdoor meetings will be held afternoon and evening. Mrs. Pankhurst will speak on the Government's latest attack on Suffragist prisoners, and Manchester is to have an opportunity of hearing Miss Gladice Keovil tell of the Birmingham protest. Open-air meetings are being held nightly in the districts round Manchester, and frequent sandwich parades, etc., deliver the message to business men in the city. So moved was a working man by the parade last Saturday that he exclaimed "Eh, ye're a plucky lot!"

During Miss Helliwell's absence, owing to her recent "Hunger Strike," lest others should be overburdened, and in order to do "her share," Miss Wallwork gave up her fortnight's holiday to work in the office, and now that this has come to a close her work is greatly missed. At Southport and St. Anne's Miss Harraden's visit proved a great success, and Mrs. Almond's drawing-room meeting at Farnworth was a splendid occasion in a comparatively new district.

Great indignation has been aroused among Liverpool members by the fact that those women who took part in the recent demonstration outside the Sun Hall, and who on being sentenced in the second division protested by breaking the windows, have been summoned to appear at the police court on October 8 to answer to the charge of window-breaking, although they have already been punished by being placed in punishment cells. This incident, occurring so soon before Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting, will, it is confidently hoped, rouse all members to the necessity of making every effort to render the Sun Hall meeting a triumphant success. A special appeal is made by Miss Flatman for extra helpers as stewards. At least fifty or sixty are needed for this large hall, and names should be sent in at once, as the time is so short. Tickets for Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting at the Sun Hall on October 11—prices 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.—can be had at the office on application to Miss Geraldine Lyster. The weekly At Homes at Liverpool will be resumed on Tuesday, October 5, when Miss Mary Gawthorpe will speak. The new Liverpool shop is the centre of great interest, crowds assembling all day long outside it. Mrs. Meyer will be at the shop every Friday at 6.30, when she hopes that members will call and help her with the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Members with an hour or two to spare are also asked to call at the office, where their help will be gladly welcomed.

Midlands.

An account of Miss Christabel Pankhurst's meeting at the Temperance Hall, Birmingham, will be found on page 4. Mrs. Pankhurst's presence on the platform was a most unexpected and delightful surprise. Tickets were sold out long before the meeting began, and an overflow meeting was held in the Bull Ring for the many who were disappointed. Since the Suffrage imprisonments in Winsen Green Prison, Birmingham, members have organised a meeting in the Bull Ring every evening. Speeches are delivered from a wagonette, and speakers then ask the crowd to follow them to Winsen Green to give the prisoners a rousing cheer. Funds were raised to defray the expense of a band outside the prison last Monday, with a procession of members. Members are specially notified that the Handsworth Council House meeting arranged for October 7 has been unavoidably altered to the following Thursday, October 14. This gives another week in which to prepare for it, and Handsworth members are asked to take advantage of this, and to ensure an even greater success. The organising is in the hands of Miss Dora Benson, who will be pleased to hear from members willing to help in canvassing, distributing handbills, or in other ways. The weekly afternoon At Homes at Birmingham will recommence on Tuesday next, October 5. For these Queen's College has been taken, and very hard work and constant advertising will be necessary week by week. At the opening meeting Lady Constance Lytton has promised to speak both in the afternoon and evening, and members are urged to be present and bring as many friends as possible. Cards of invitation will gladly be sent to any addresses given. A reception will be held for Lady Constance Lytton on Wednesday, October 6, at the Star and Garter Hotel, Wolverhampton. Miss Elsie Barnett, Salisbury House, will be pleased to receive names or lists of those who would like to be present, and will welcome any members willing to help with the arrangement of the meeting, etc. The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN shows an excellent record, but more volunteers are still needed for street selling. An appeal is made to members to come forward, even if they have only half-an-hour to spare each week. Miss Keovil suggests that

those members who are unable to give any time to selling could help very efficiently by buying a dozen or more copies every week to dispose of among their friends. Miss Hooper, of 7, Swinburne Street, is the local secretary, and is arranging meetings at Ashbourne, Duffield, and the neighbouring towns. Miss Maud Bennett, Literature Secretary, is also doing excellent work. The Coventry Demonstration last Saturday afternoon was highly successful, large expectant crowds gathering in Pool Meadow long before the time of the meeting. The speakers were Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Gladice Keovil, and Dr. Helena Jones, the three platforms being presided over by Mrs. Kerwood, Miss Hazel, and Miss Kelly. The reception of the speakers was most hearty and enthusiastic, and it is confidently expected that many new members will be made in the neighbourhood as a result of this demonstration.

Yorkshire.

The week in North Yorkshire has been occupied in advertising Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's two meetings in Redcar and Middlesbrough, and in this Miss Kathleen Brown and Miss Winifred Jones have been doing yeoman service. An account of the Redcar meeting appears on p. 10. Saltburn, Skelton, Guisborough, Loftus, Great Ayrton, Nunthorpe, Eston, Marton, and Ormesby will all be well represented at these meetings, and new ground has been broken in Stockton, where the speakers at the first Suffrage meeting held had a most sympathetic reception, and a large number of copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were bought. The speeches lasted an hour and a-half, and were followed with interest throughout, and the first question asked at the close was, "When are you coming again?" to which the reply was given, "As soon as ever we can." Miss Pethick appeals to all men who live in this district to come out now and help in this battle to the very death, and to women also not to fail to take their place in the fighting line and uphold those who are proving their devotion to the cause by their sufferings in prison.

Newcastle.

Dinner-hour and evening meetings have been held every day during the past week at the ship yard and steel works' gates, and every evening in the Bigg Market and Haymarket alternately, by Miss Williams, Miss E. Davison, and Mrs. Atkinson. On Saturday Miss Mabel Atkinson, M.A., spoke for more than an hour to a most thoughtful and appreciative crowd in the Haymarket. St. George's Drill Hall has been taken for Miss Pankhurst's meeting on the 8th. There is much hard work to be done, and Miss Williams would be glad to have the names of any who are willing to help. Enthusiasm, energy, time, money, all are needed, and "now more than ever," writes Miss Annie Williams, the organiser, "it must be 'Deeds, not words.'"

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

A meeting will be held on Saturday, October 2, in the Charing Cross Halls at three o'clock, at which the final arrangements for the Glasgow section of the demonstration will, as far as possible, be made known. All who are intending to take part in the procession are urged to make every effort to be present. At 3.15 there will be speeches of special interest to professional women by Miss Ann Macbeth, Miss Swanson, Dr. Katharine Chapman, and others, after which there will be time for discussion and inquiries. On October 9 the special train will leave Glasgow Central at 12.50 and return from Edinburgh (Princes Street) at 6.25. Large open-air meetings have been held during the week, and the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN has exceeded 1,100.

Edinburgh.

The first At Homes of the season, on the afternoon and the evening of September 23, were a great success. Mrs. Drummond and Miss Joachim spoke on both occasions, and in response to an appeal for Demonstration Funds over £16 was given or promised. Supplementary contributions were made by Miss Methuen, Miss E. O. Haig, Mrs. Dobbie, Miss Burn Murdoch, Miss Grant, the Misses Filahill, and Mrs. Kennedy. (See Scottish Demonstration, p. 3.)

Dundee.

Miss Paul, Miss New, and Miss Burns were welcomed at a dinner at Dundee last Wednesday evening, at which the Provost took the chair.

The War Chest.

The list of contributions from country organisers is headed this week by the Midlands, which sends a substantial amount of over £28. This includes the interesting item of £1 4s. collected in "threepenny pieces."



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PLYMOUTH.—Bedford Street.
NOTTINGHAM.—Milton Street.

PORTSMOUTH.—Commercial Road.
BRIGHTON.—Old Steine.
BRISTOL.—Tramways Centre.
NORWICH.—Market Place.
WORTHING.—Montague Street.
LEWES.—High Street.
GRIMSBY.—Cleethorpe Road.

GOSPORT.—Stoke Road.
CROYDON, W.—Royal Parade.
CROYDON, S.—Brighton Road.
NEWHAVEN.—High Street.
SHOREHAM.—High Street.
BRIXTON, S.W.—Acre Lane.
CLAPHAM JUNCTION, S.W.—St. John's Road.

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LOCAL NOTES.

BOWES PARK W.S.P.U.—Capital meetings have been held in Wood Green and Finsbury Park during the month. Mrs. Mitchell, Miss Gibson, Miss Macnamara, Miss Rose Barry, and Miss Kendall have been our speakers. The winter campaign opens with fortnightly meetings in Unity Hall, Wood Green, on Wednesday, October 13. Miss Hume will be the speaker. These meetings will be preceded by a short open-air meeting, which it is hoped will increase the interest in our indoor meetings. Our members are energetically pushing the Albert Hall tickets, and uniting with Hornsey in organising the great Alexandra Palace meeting, at which Miss Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence are to speak.

CAMBERWELL AND PECKHAM W.S.P.U.—An interested audience listened to Miss Hefford and Miss M. Robinson at Oakley Place, Old Kent Road, on Saturday evening, September 25. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, October 2, at the Fountain, Dulwich Village, at 5.30 p.m. Women are wanted to sell papers in the streets. Will those who have time to spare during the next week send their names at once to Miss Curtis, 14, Brunswick Square, Camberwell.—C. DAWSON.

CHELSEA W.S.P.U.—The Chelsea Committee are glad to announce that they have acquired premises for the use of their local Union at 278, King's Road, Chelsea, which will be opened on Monday, October 4. They will now be glad to receive subscriptions towards rent and upkeep, and also gifts and loans of furniture. A writing-table, rug, and other articles have already been promised, but chairs are needed. Miss Barry, who will in future carry on her circulating library there between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., will be glad to receive offers of help in keeping shop at stated hours. The usual weekly At Home will be held there commencing Wednesday, October 6, at 8 p.m.

CHISWICK W.S.P.U.—Chiswick has opened the autumn campaign with two successful open-air meetings. While the weather permits we shall hold meetings each Saturday and Sunday evening at 7 o'clock near the Fire Station, High Road. On October 6 we commence a series of three afternoon meetings, to be held in the Town Hall at 3 p.m. We have chosen the first Wednesday in each of the three months before Christmas. On October 6 the chair will be taken by the Rev. Cartmel Robinson, and the principal speaker will be Miss Helen Ogston. We hope all the Chiswick readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN will try to be present and bring friends with them. All seats free.—M. COOMBS.

CROYDON W.S.P.U.—A highly successful meeting was held at Whyteleafe on Saturday evening. This was the first time Suffragettes had visited the village, and considerable interest was aroused. There were many requests for another meeting, and several copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold.—C. I. GREEN, p.p. G. Cameron Swan.

FOREST GATE W.S.P.U.—A successful open-air meeting was held last Friday at Wanstead. Our meeting on Friday, October 1, will be outside Leytonstone G.R. Station at 7.45 p.m. Will members willing to sell papers call at 129, Earlham Grove, at 6 p.m. on Friday evening.—M. E. SLEIGHT.

HORNSEY W.S.P.U.—We had an excellent meeting at St. Thomas's Road on Thursday, when Miss Bonwick spoke and Miss May Kendal took the chair. In spite of the weather on Saturday, our meeting at the Clock Tower was a success. Miss Feek spoke, and Mrs. Williams took the chair. The next meeting will be at the Archway Tavern on Saturday, October 2, at 7 p.m. The St. Thomas's Road meeting will be postponed from the 7th to the 14th. Members are canvassing the different districts for workers for the Alexandra Palace Demonstration. Will all those willing to help, who have not already sent in their names to Miss Bonwick, please do so at once.—CLARE BROWN.

ILFORD W.S.P.U.—On September 22 we had a good meeting in Station Road, at which Miss Naylor spoke and Ethel Haslam took the chair. A collection was taken to cover expenses. Five dozen papers have been sold during the week. Our next meeting, on October 5, at 7.30, will be held opposite Ilford Station, or in Station Road. Mrs. Cullen will be our speaker. Will paper-sellers please remember to be at 68, Cranbrook Road on Saturday at 7 p.m.—ETHEL C. HASLAM, Hon. Secretary.

KENSINGTON W.S.P.U.—Our first monthly afternoon At Home will be held next Wednesday, October 6, at Albert Lodge, Albert Place, Victoria Road, by kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Grant, 4 to 6 p.m. Miss Mary Neal and others will speak. Reminder cards may be obtained from the shop, and all are invited. The At Home last Tuesday evening in Miss Brackenbury's Studio brought a large attendance, many being strangers who had never been to a Suffrage meeting before. The Kensington News prints a sympathetic account of the excellent speeches made by Miss Evelyn Morrison, B.A., on the vote in Australasia, and by Mr. Laurence Housman on the present disabilities of women. We hope to have the pleasure of hearing Miss Barrett, among others, next Tuesday evening, October 5, at 8 p.m. Canvassing for the Albert Hall meeting is proceeding busily under the able guidance of Miss Corson, and a poster parade to advertise the same will start from the shop on Monday and Tuesday morning, October 4th and 5th, at 10.45 a.m. Volunteers are urgently needed, both to carry posters and to give away bills and sell papers along the route. Many thanks are due to the Misses Brackenbury for promptly and generously responding to our last week's appeal for a glass show-case for the shop, and to Miss Garrett Anderson, M.D., and three anonymous donors, for jumble sale parcels, more of which are needed. These may be sent to me at 7, Wrentham Avenue, Willesden, N.W. All other communications to go to the shop and offices, 143, Church Street, W. Telephone, 2118 Western.—LOUISA M. EATON, Hon. Secretary.

LEWISHAM W.S.P.U.—Meetings were held at Lee Green on Wednesday, September 22, when Mrs. Tanner spoke, and on Blackheath on Sunday, September 26, when Mrs. Cullen spoke. At both meetings a big poster advertising the Blackheath concert hall meeting of October 13 was shown. Handbills of this meeting and of the Albert Hall Demonstration were also distributed. To-day (Friday, October 1) our new VOTES FOR WOMEN shop and office (107, Lewisham High Street) will be opened, and a 7.30 p.m. meeting will be held in the Market Place,

opposite our shop. Miss N. U. Smith will speak. Next Sunday our speaker on Blackheath will be Miss Coombe, of Chislewick. Friends are urged to come to our local meetings to distribute handbills and to support the speakers. All those who can volunteer to help in the shop please write to Miss Graham, Secretary of our Shop Committee, 41, St. Mildred's Road, Lee, stating the hours they can devote regularly to the shop. All those who can help distributing special letters and handbills re public meeting of October 13 please call for instructions at Miss Billingham's, 7, Oakcroft Road, Blackheath, before October 1, and after that date at the shop. Those who can act as stewards or literature sellers at the Blackheath Concert Hall on October 13 should write to Mrs. Bouvier, 32, Mount Pleasant Road, Lewisham. Tickets on sale and return for October 13 can be obtained from Miss Billingham. Will anyone give us some linoleum, a doormat, and an umbrella-stand for our shop? A male sympathiser is making us a stand for the shop window. On Saturday, October 2, the Drum and Fife Band will parade the streets of our district, and many helpers will be required to accompany the band, distributing handbills, etc.—J. A. BOUVIER, Hon. Secretary.

MARYLEBONE W.S.P.U.—A year ago last May Miss Douglas Smith held the first Suffragette meeting in Regent's Park. It was a great pleasure to hear her there again on Sunday. Our speaker for October 3 will be Mrs. Mansel. Our speaker's class will not begin till after the 7th. The date will be announced in next week's paper. Ladies wishing to join this class, for which there is no charge, should write to me at 20, Weymouth Street, W. We continue to have good meetings at Nutford Place, Edgware Road, on Fridays, at 8.15 p.m.—LNU NOURSE.

PUTNEY AND FULHAM W.S.P.U.—Meetings this week were held at Walham Green on Monday, when Miss Bonwick was our chief speaker, and Miss GHNatt took the chair; in Putney on Saturday night, when Miss Naylor spoke and Miss Cutten acted as chairman; and on Sunday on Putney Embankment, when the chief speakers were Miss M. Brackenbury and Miss Jarvis. Meetings will be held on Saturday night, October 2, in Putney; on Sunday, October 3, on Putney Heath at 3.30 p.m.; and on Monday evening, October 4, at Walham Green or Parsons Green. Will members endeavour to support at least one meeting a week. It is essential that we should have paper-sellers on the outskirts of the crowd. The treasurer wishes to remind friends that some of the guarantees are rather in arrears. Will they please note. Parcels for the jumble sale should be sent care of Miss Cutten, Kelvedon Hall, Kelvedon Road, Fulham.—H. ROBERTS, L. CUTTEN, Hon. Secretaries.

RICHMOND AND KEW W.S.P.U.—Our Richmond meeting on Saturday, September 25, was well attended, a notable feature being the number of men present. Miss Elaine East spoke, and Miss Williams took the chair. On Sunday afternoon, September 26, at Kew Bridge Approach, Mrs. Caprina Fahy spoke to a large audience. Miss Jacobs was in the chair. Meetings will take place as usual on Saturday morning, October 2, in Heron

Court, and on Sunday afternoon, October 3, at Kew.—CLARA T. CLAYTON, Hon. Secretary.

RICHMOND W.S.P.U.—Nearly ten dozen copies of the paper have been sold in the streets and at open-air meetings in Kew and Richmond during the past fortnight.—E. BARNETT.

STREATHAM AND DISTRICT W.S.P.U.—Our usual meeting on September 26 was well attended, in spite of the weather. The audience listened with the closest attention to Miss Naylor, who spoke for nearly an hour and a-half. Miss N. E. Smith was in the chair. We took a good collection. Next Sunday, October 3, Miss Corson will speak, and Miss Philine Ayrton will take the chair.—HUMAN TYSON.

WIMBLEDON W.S.P.U.—On Sunday, September 26, the chair was taken by Mrs. Knight, and the speaker was Miss Barry. Members are reminded that it takes a great deal of rain to prevent us holding our meetings, and that their presence is always a help. The Wimbledon W.S.P.U. desires to open offices in Wimbledon as a centre for propaganda work and for the sale of literature. Will any sympathiser offer—(1) Suitable premises (with shop front if possible) free, or at a nominal rental; (2) contributions towards the upkeep of such premises; (3) day's or half-day's voluntary attendance at these offices; (4) office furniture or linoleum. Replies should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, pro tem., 27, Merton Hall Road, Wimbledon.

A W.S.P.U. FOR BUCKS.

In consequence of the very encouraging meetings held during the summer in Buckinghamshire towns and villages, it has been decided to ask members and sympathisers in the neighbourhood of or at Wendover, Amersham, Chesham, Aylesbury, High Wycombe, Great Missenden, Tring, Thame, etc., to send in their names to Mrs. Keeling (who is desirous of forming a Women's Social and Political Branch for Bucks), Cobler's Hill, Great Missenden.

CHURCH AND STAGE.

Church and stage joined hands recently on the question of woman's suffrage, when Canon Talbot and Mr. Forbes-Robertson both spoke with convincing eloquence on the subject of votes for women at a packed meeting at Bristol.

The Danish Minister of Commerce recently said in an official speech: "Women should have equal political rights with men. The question admits of no argument. Opposition might mean danger for the government. That has been proved in England, where opposition to woman suffrage has weakened the Government materially. There is no need for hesitation. I shall work my utmost for political equality of men and women."

At a recent meeting of the Manchester branch of the Catholic Women's League, a paper was contributed by Miss Frances Zanetti, on "Catholic Women and Social Progress." The object of the paper was to arouse Catholic women to a sense of citizenship, and to a more active interest in social questions of the day.

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Mrs. Hurst.

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Mrs. Chapman.

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